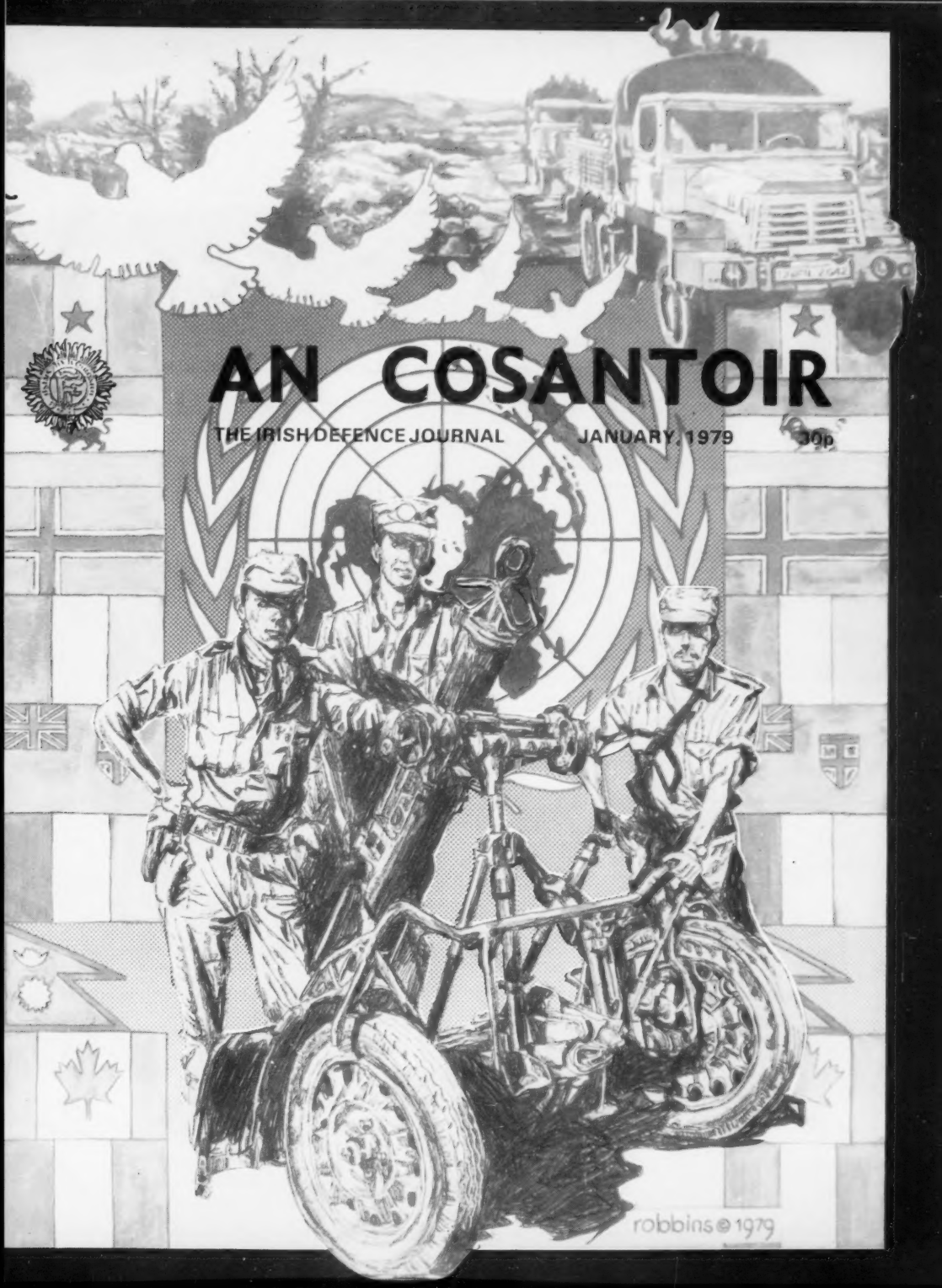
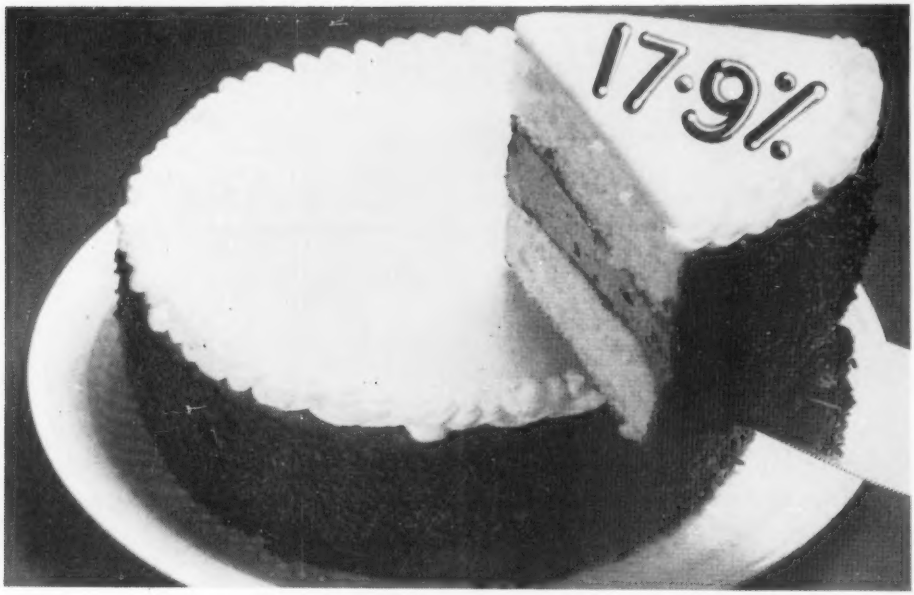

AN COSANTOIR
THE IRISH DEFENCE JOURNAL
JANUARY 1979
30p
robbins © 1979

THE EXTRA SLICE WITH IRISH LIFE



The latest figures show a continuing, vigorous growth in Irish Life funds. An average growth, AFTER TAX, of no less than 17.9% p.a. over the last three years.

Managed Fund
once again shows strong growth. Values can, of course, fluctuate but Irish Life's flexibility between equities, property, gilts and cash has again proved its effectiveness (growth over 3 years, 79.4% after tax).

Blue Chip
continues to be one of the largest equity-linked funds in this part of Europe. Positive management and world-wide investment are resulting in steady, impressive appreciation (growth over 3 years, 59.9% after tax).

Property Modules
owe their high growth performance to returns on a fund now in excess of £62.5 million. This fund is invested in prestige properties which are strategically placed throughout the EEC (growth over 3 years, 52.5% after tax).

IRISH LIFE
ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Irish Life Centre, Dublin 1.
Telephone: 720288.

Vol. XXXIX No. 1 January, 1979

The fact that an article appears in this journal does not indicate official approval of the views expressed by the author.

Under the auspices of the Army Authorities.

editor
Comdt. Con Costello.

editorial
Army Headquarters,
Parkgate,
Dublin 8, Ireland.
(Tel. 771881).

advertising
The Manager,
An Cosantoir,
Army Headquarters,
Parkgate, Dublin.

An Cosantoir is available from: Officers' and NCOs' Messes; Army Canteens; all leading Newsagents; or by direct subscription from An Cosantoir, Army Headquarters, Parkgate, Dublin 8.

Annual Subscription: £2.40
Overseas, £3.00.

3 ..... **Griffith Barracks, Dublin**
Comdt. P. O'Donnell

7 ..... **The 2 Anti Aircraft Battery, F.C.A.**

12 ..... **Education in The Defence Forces (Part II)**
Capt. P. Young, AHQ

14 ..... **Irish Records**

15 ..... **Hocklok - Koch Pistols**
Major Richard J. Keogh, USAR

22 ..... **Soldering On**
Tom Noel MacAndrew

25 ..... **What the Papers Notice**

26 ..... **Book Reviews**

COVER: Drawing by Eamon Robbins, Dept. of Defence.

SPECIAL BINDING OFFER

Subscribers who wish to have their copies of An Cosantoir or any other Journal, bound are invited to contact us for a realistic quotation. Binding can be done in Buckram or Leather Cloth, any colour, with titlegold blocked on spine. The cost of binding this year's An Cosantoir is £7.50, VAT included. Postage extra.

Quotations also available for binding of full sets of back issues of any journals supplied by subscriber.

Copies for binding can be forwarded to: An Cosantoir Office or direct to:

John F. Newman & Son Ltd.
79a St. Ignatius Road - Dublin 7
Telephone 308622

Let's get it all together at Quinnsworth

Griffith Barracks, Dublin

Barracks & Posts of Ireland No. 29

PART II

Comdt. P. D. O'Donnell

World War II

GRIFFITH Barracks had the honour of having the very first unit of the "Emergency Army". An old soldier, Philip Morris writes: "The 14th Battalion was formed (or reformed) in June 1940. In its early days it was composed mainly of old soldiers, or '22 men as they liked to regard themselves. Most of these men went to "A" company under the command of Comdt. Izzy Conroy who was of their vintage.

"They were the first Emergency soldiers, being designated with the numbers 'E/400002' onward. A soldier named Dunne had the distinction of being 'E/400002'. There may have been an '01', but if so he disappeared from the scene at an early stage.

"As the June days petered into July more recruits were added as they completed their training in Portobello Barracks. The OC of the 14th Battalion then was Colonel Joe Byrne, a man who liked to display his gold braid at all times. (And how proper). The Second in Command was Comdt. Kerins, who may have come from D.O.D. (GHQ) as he appeared to be a more detached type of officer. (Apparently an air of cool detachment was a great thing then.) The other officers were decidedly less detached. Lieut Michael Cummins was the Adjutant, a reserve officer on recall. Lieut Charlie Robinson, brother of 'Christy Boy' was in command of B company, assisted by C.S.M. Barton, a career soldier.

"BSM John Devine was the archetypal soldier. He was so immaculately dressed and groomed that it was said in the ranks that he could p--- on a colonel. Nicknamed 'John the Gom' he was a strict disciplinarian but nevertheless a fair man.

"In charge of C company was an officer nicknamed 'Dirty Barrel' whose real name eludes me. The 14th Battalion was full of characters. Joe Dolan (not the 'drifter') was with us for a while, wearing his service revolver slung low on his thigh. He would stroll about the square in a detached manner . . . Another officer was Ernie O'Malley, somewhat reduced in rank at Lieutenant."

"For the first six months we had the old German-type black helmet. These were absolutely useless as I proved at Kilbride range by piercing it at one hundred yards with a Lee Enfield 303. (author - what about two hundred or more yards?). The early men in A company were issued with Regular Army dress - peaked cap, breeches and leggings. This attire gave them plenty of reason to crow over the new recruits in the Emergency forage cap and useless little anklet leggings. A brisk trade developed in the selling of Regular Army stuff. The official ruling was that you could only wear it if issued with it, but the rule was seldom if ever enforced mainly because the B.S.M. wore it himself. "A" company also had the Great War type of web equipment, whereas the other companies had bandoliers and looked rather bare.

The Railway Corps in Griffith Bks, 1923. General R. Mulcahy presenting the colours to Col. Nairn. Inset: General Mulcahy, Maj. Gen. Russell, OC Railway Protection and Maintenance Corps and Maj. Gen. S. McMahon, C.O.S. (Photo from An t-Oglach)

The 14th Battalion was the garrison battalion for Dublin and as such had to mount a massive guard each day. This was an imposing sight on the square, with almost 150 men paraded for inspection. It was composed as follows: Quarter guard - two NCOs and 15 men; Bank Guard-one NCO and nine men; Government Buildings guard - two NCOs and 24 men; Mountjoy guard - two NCOs and 21 men; Pidgeon House - one NCO, twelve men; North Wall

- two NCOs, twelve men; Islandbridge Bks guard - two NCOs, 21 men; Stand-To - two NCOs and 24 men; total 14 NCOs and 138 men. This heavy commitment meant an average of three nights off, but if the duty roster was not in your favour it could mean only two nights off or possibly one. In turn this arrangement could work out at a soldier doing over one hundred hours duty a week, and this situation lasted for almost four years. Comdt. Kierse took over command early in 1942 and improved things a lot.

"We won the turf-cutting competition in Kildare in 1942. This included civilian teams from all the 'bog' counties. Pte. Keoghane was the expert slanesman. Every encouragement was given to athletics in those years. In 1942 a large contingent spent six weeks cutting turf at Timahoe. One character was known as the 'Bleeder' for some odd reason and his simple philosophy was 'I do my guard - I do my com.' This means he did his duty even to square bashing on the compound. One Indian army-type Sergeant known as 'Bushy Top' used hammer his squad up and down in Salisbury fashion outside the adjutant's office. This gave rise to the jibe, 'there's Bushy Top looking for his wheel. (Promotion to company sergeant with its rank marking of the army crest and two stripes).

"Other activities were being sent out during the foot-and-mouth epidemic in 1941, digging huge trenches for the dead cattle and killing them with point twenty two rifles. We were also out on rescue work after the North Strand bombing by German planes; and once on a massive cordon for a wanted man at Seville Place. I was sorry to hear that Major Kierse had passed away as he was a sort of father figure in the battalion."

After the war the 14th Battalion as well as others were demobbed. Griffith Barracks was silent except for a few odd details hanging on from the Emergency. The first "civvies" entered in December, 1946 when the Office of Public Works took vacant possession of the North Block. Here it is necessary to recount that way back in 1925 when there were only a few engineers in barracks the OPW had been empowered to grant a yearly tenancy from April to the Greenmount & Boyne Linen Company of four blocks containing 36 married quarters, - of which more later.

In November 1946 the 5th Infantry Battalion which had amalgamated with the 18th Battalion in Gormanston in January now moved to Griffith Barracks. They remained there until 17th December, 1946 when they departed for the Hibernian Schools, Phoenix Park. A further erosion occurred when the Labour Court occupied part of the barracks in 1947.

We are indebted to Comdt. Leo Buckley for his reminiscences of the times. He states: "I was one of the complement to re-occupy Griffith Bks. in November, 1953 under Comdt. George Heffernan. In this connection I remember a specific occasion soon after the occupation when Comdt. Heffernan ordered the Gates of the barracks to be closed to civilians until they could identify themselves - for security reasons. The Labour Court was in occupation of part of the barracks and of course various persons were entering and leaving the barracks. This naturally caused consternation but Comdt. Heffernan refused to budge until the matter was finally resolved by the physical presence later in the day of the Chief of Staff. It all made headlines in the Evening Herald" of the day. The sequel was that thereafter a civilian messanger was made available at the gate to identify civilians entering the barracks. The rest of the battalion joined us later in the following year, 1954. Lt. Col. Kierse who was OC retired and was replaced by Lt. Col. S. Clancy."

Some personalities of the time were Captain Jack Dowling, later of RTE and now alas deceased; Captain Ambrose Nestor, the Adjutant who was replaced by Lt. Col. P. Daly; Captain Frank O'Connor, now with G15; and the grey-haired Captain as he was called, the irrepressible Comdt. P. M. Quinlan.

"A humourous incident of those times occurred when Private Jack Lovely (later Cook Sergeant) was cooking for the officers. He was a man of few words and always to the point and earthy. At that time the Mess Bar was upstairs while the dining room was on the ground floor adjacent to the kitchen. Saturday mornings in those days was the time for COs inspection of the battalion and the barracks. Fall-out at 1230 hours was therefore the time for 'post mortems' and 'one-for-the-road' sessions upstairs in the bar. Quite a few officers lived in single quarters then - or rather in a plain barrack room with eight to ten beds known as the 'Garret', with a wash-house on the same landing of the 'old-blue-slate-slab' variety. The 'session' often went on to midmid-afternoon and Pte. Lovely was bribed with 'a few bottles' to keep the lunch 'hot'. On the day in question a young soldier was commencing his first duty as mess waiter. Afterwards he was known as 'Bimbo' because of his babyface and the song, popular at the time. Anyway he became somewhat restless and bored around 1500 hours and ventured timidly to enquire from Pte. Lovely: 'when will the GENTLEMEN be down to lunch? - to receive the curt reply, 'when they fall down the effin' stairs!'"

Lt. Col. S. Clancy (retired) recalls that in 1956 he was ordered to send three reinforced companies from Griffith Barracks to border areas due to the fear of subversive activities, which in fact did come about. In 1957 the barracks was host to a group of New York supporters of their Gaelic football team who visited Dublin to play Kerry, then All Ireland champions. The group were led by the well-known John Kerry O'Donnell and were invited to the Officers' Mess for refreshments and song. The OC subsequently received many letters of thanks for Irish hospitality.

Army ARP Instructors March 1938. Group includes Capt. Prendergast; Capt. Kearns; Lt. Donovan; C/S Marron; Sgts. Dolan and Timley.

Lt. Col. Clancy has another interesting recollection. In 1957 the authorities decided to integrate the F.C.A. into the regular army. One of the three Dublin battalions had therefore to be disbanded. As the 5th Battalion was located in the least important barracks - Griffith - it was to be the victim. The 2nd Bn was in Cathal Brugha Bks., and the 7th Battalion was in Collins Bks. However Lt. Col. Clancy decided to try to obtain a reprieve and went to see Major General Liam Egan then G.O.C. Eastern Command. He was successful in presenting the case that the 5th Battalion because of its seniority and its traditions and achievements should be kept on. The case went to G.H.Q. and in the event i was the 7th Bn. which was 'axed'. The 5th Battalion eventually left Griffith Bks., in 1959 to take the place of the disbanded 7th Bn.

Before they left Griffith Bks an unusual request was made to the OC late in 1958. A man named Poole appeared at the gate looking for permission to dig in a certain part of the barracks to locate the remains of his brother, an 'Invincible' who was executed in the Richmond Prison as Griffith was known then in the 1880s. He said his brother was buried beside the square. This permission could not, of course, be given readily and he was so informed and that for any digging an uxhumation order and permission from the Department would be required. He went away but returned in a few weeks clutching the exhumation order and the permission. Mr. Poole and a friend then were allowed to dig at a place near the gymnasium and behind the National Stadium. They dug deep but found nothing except an animal bone. Sadly they departed and it was explained to them that in any case anyone executed then and buried there would have most probably been buried in quicklime, leaving no trace after all those years. Present day soldiers might remember to say a prayer for the repose of the soul of the executed man when in the barracks.

After the 5th Battalion left Griffith Bks in 1959 the 20th Battalion, F.C.A. arrived in occupation from Cathal Brugha Barracks, and they are still there.

To conclude it is necessary to go back to the presence in the barracks of various other bodies. The Labour Court were given the North Block by

OPW in 1946 and remained until 1966. Dublin Corporation were given a billet in 1962 and established a hostel for displaced families, females only. In 1964 the Bank Block and Canteen were let to the Dublin Health Authority for the temporary accomodation of persons displaced from dangerous buildings. Their successors, the Eastern Health Board occupied these buildings until after Christmas in 1974. The married quarters which had been let to the Greenmount & Boyne Company were released by them to Dublin Corporation in 1963 for the same purpose - displaced persons. By 1976 when the barracks was again required fully for regular units the Corporation began to hand back these married quarters as they became vacant. By 1977 thirteen of these have been handed back and occupied by military personnel.

In 1961 accomodation was also provided - in the West Block - for the Census of Population Staff. The block was vacated in January 1976. In 1968 The Dumping Board were given offices and these were vacated in October, 1976. This was the last Civil Service body to occupy a portion of the barracks.

In December, 1970, due to the burning of their house in Clontarf, St. Michael's House, (Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Handicapped Children) were granted a letting of Room No. 2, "B" Block, as a training workshop for fifty children. The room was vacated in April, 1974 on completion of a new workshop for the Association in Ballymun.

All these bodies leaving the barracks allowed the following units to join the 20th Battalion and the 2nd A.A. Battery in Griffith Barracks in 1976: 2nd Motor Squadron; 2nd Garrison Military Police Corps; Eastern Command Area Records; and The Observer Corps.

Thus the barracks which was once filled with British troops up to 1922; and which was filled with Emergency men until the end of World War II, is now again fully occupied by personnel of Permanent Defence Forces and the Forsa Cosanta Aituil. The barracks is however not as large as it was in previous times. Now fenced off is the National Stadium and Gymnasium site which is held by the Irish Amateur Boxing Association on a 99 years lease from May, 1939.

P. D. O'D. 1977

DFAA Fixtures

Cross Country - Senior (PDF) 7 Feb Ballincollig
Basketball (i/c) 20/21 Feb. Curragh Command
Soccer - 1st Round 28 Feb.
NS V S Command Cobh
Air Corps V.E. Command, Baldonnell.

Berkeley Shoes

Manufacturers of Mens & Boys Footwear

For best value insist on Berkeley Shoes available from all leading shoe stores.

Phone: 305681

Unit 6 Ardee House,
Ardee Street,
Dublin 8.

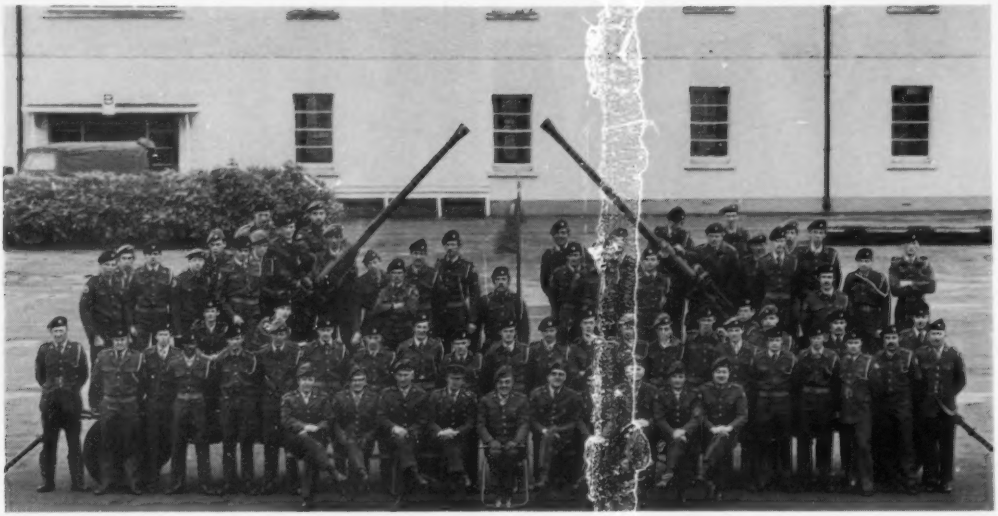
&

6 Berkeley Place,
Dublin 7.

The HOUSE of CARR

•

Jervis Street - Dublin 1
Telephone (01) 749335 - 6 - 7 - 8
Telex 30905



2 AA Bty in Training Camp

Front Row: L. to R.: Lt. L. Holmes; Lt. A. Brogan; Capt. J. O'Brien; Capt. E. Breslin; Comdt. P. Holahan; Capt. J. Clarke; Capt. M. Ward; Lts. S. Forde; M. Flood and Cr. O Flanagan. **Second Row**: BQMS T. O'Reilly; BS C. Sheridan; Cmrs. S. Ryan; O. Jinadoe; A. Malones; P. Cullen; D. Barr; Cpl. L. Butler; Gnr. M. Perry; Cpls. J. O'Brien; B. Bushe; J. Joyce; Gnrs. B. Keating; M. Griffith; P. Fox; J. Kavanagh; M. Howe; G. Leonard; G. Foley; D. Dyre; L. Bridge; D. Delaney; A/BS J. Guerrine; Gnr. F. Carr; BQMS K. Brown; Sgt. L. Hughes & BS T. Foley. **Third Row**: Gnrs. D. Donegan; E. Kilkelly; A. Bowes; G. Nolan; S. O'Connor; [illegible]bbo son; N. Cunniskey; Cpl. J. Wright; Gnr. D. Comyn; A/Cpl. E. Burke; Gnr. S. O'Regan; Cpl. J. McCormack; Cpl. E. Tadola; Cpl. A. Singleton; Sgt. E. Kinsella; Cpls. G. McMahon; L. Wilson; A. Kavanagh; S. Tornses; J. Gough; Gnr. J. Kelly; Cpl. D. Chadwick; Gnrs. D. Dignam; J. Brady; R. Ashley; B. Bennett; P. Flanagan; Sgt. J. Keeshan; [illegible]ees; J. Sommers & P. Merrin. (Photo: Comdt. P. Walshe)

The 2 Anti Aircraft Battery F.C.A.

The 2 Anti Aircraft Battery is based in Griffith Barracks, Dublin and is attached to the 2 Brigade. It is a sub-unit of the 1 Anti Aircraft Regiment with its headquarters in Kildare. The Regiment has 3 batteries, the 1 Anti Aircraft Battery (PDF) in Kildare, the 3 Anti Aircraft Battery (FCA) based in Limerick and the Dublin Battery. Each battery has a Heavy Troop and a Light Troop and although there is no heavy equipment at present the troop appointments are filled and the personnel are trained in the available equipment. The Light Troop is equipped with the Bofors 40mm Gun. In addition to the regular overnight camps and field days the Battery trains every Sunday morning and Tuesday night. Training is aimed at providing qualified crews in the primary weapon to fire AA practices with personnel also trained in signals, driving and other back-up services.

Part and parcel of the battery is its commander, since its formation in 1959, until 25 December, 1978, Comdt. Paud Holahan. As a Lieutenant in 1959, he was asked by the late Lt. Col. Ross Carew (Area FCA Commander) to start the 2 Anti Aircraft Battery from scratch. He could not have picked a better man, because Paud was carrying on a family tradition. His father Comdt. Paddy Holahan was the first Commanding Officer of the 26th Battalion, formed as part of the 2nd line reserve at the beginning of the emergency and initially composed exclusively of veterans of the struggle for independence. Early in the Emergency Comdt. Paddy was transferred to the Regular Army where he served until 1946. Paud's mother Josie Holahan (nee Harpur) who lives in Rathfarnham was a prominent member of Cummann na mBan.

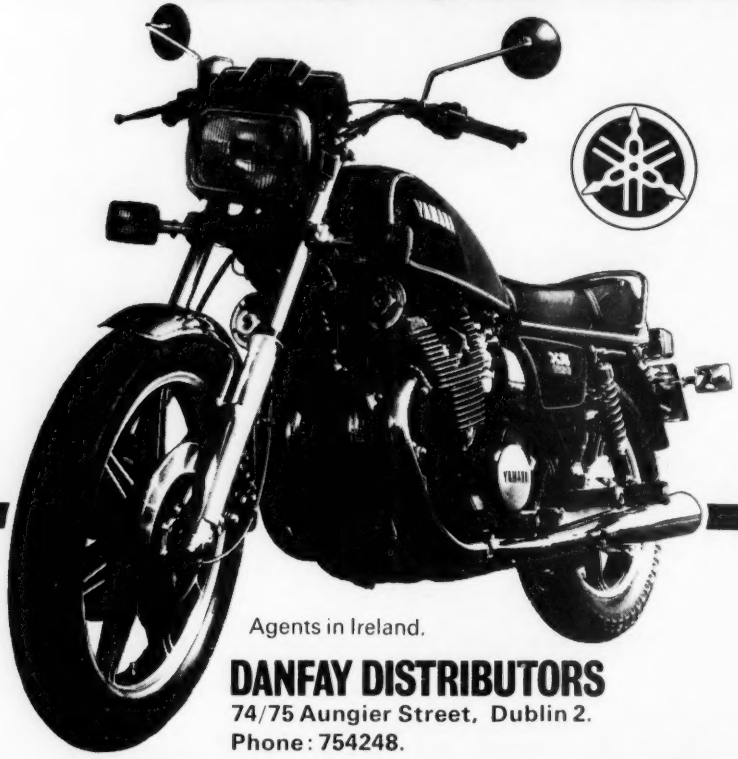
Paud has tradition on both sides and with him the following officers were appointed to the Battery in 1959, Lt. John Clarke, Lt. Jim Stout, Lt. Michael Ward, 2/Lt. John O'Brien, 2/Lt. Thomas Mulrooney, 2/Lt. Noel Bennett, 2/Lt. Eddie Dunlea and 2/Lt. Gary Megan. Three of the original still serve with the battery as Captains, John Clarke, Michael Ward and John O'Brien. Officers who were appointed since 1959 and are serving with the battery to-day are Lts. Sean Forde, Michael Flood, Anthony Brogan, Larry Holmes and Chris O Flanagain.

Battery training and administration is looked after by a PDF Cadre under a Captain. The battery and cadre have always worked well together and have spent useful and enjoyable summer training camps in all parts of the country, including Galway, Limerick, Lahinch, Ballincollig, Duncannon, Kilkenny, Kildare, Curragh, Mullingar and Gormanston, and have left their mark wherever they have been.

The year 1978 has been a most important year for the battery, it is the year the AA got back to firing aerial firing practices after a very long break, but it is also the year that the battery lost their

YAMAHA

ONLY THE GREATEST MOTORCYCLES IN THE WORLD ...THAT'S ALL



Agents in Ireland.

DANFAY DISTRIBUTORS
74/75 Aungier Street, Dublin 2.
Phone: 754248.

XS 1100

Comdt. Holanan

Commander who was with them from the start. On 25 Dec. '78 Comdt. Paud retired on age grounds. Paud's service commenced in June 1940 as a member of Group A of the Local Security Force then under control of the Garda Siochana until Jan 1941 when it became the L.D.F. He served with the 41 Bn. from 1941-1959, when he took over the 2 Anti-Aircraft Battery as a Lieutenant, he was promoted to Captain in 1960 and to Commandant in 1962. Paud is a Principal Officer in the Department of Health and Social Welfare, and with Capt. John Clarke, the Battery 2i/c who is a senior official in the Eastern Health Board, he has given very worthwhile lectures to Military courses including the Military College on the subject of Welfare and Health. Paud has helped hundreds of individuals in the Defence Forces with advice, and in this he deserves more mention than can be given here. Only the people whom he has helped will really know how much he has done to help. Although Paud retired on the 25 Dec. '78 the family tradition continues as his son is Lt. Padraig Holahan serving with the 21 Infantry Battalion, F.C.A.

The battery now enters a new era with only its second Commander since its formation in 1959, but with the leadership and example shown by Comdt. Holahan over the past nineteen years there is no doubt that his high standards will remain with the unit.

E. B.

Escort's New Look

Look out soon for the new look Presidential Escort. 2 Motor Sqn. have just taken delivery of their new Yamaha XS 500s and Griffith Bks. is agog with anticipation of their first appearance. Gone is the nondescript drab finish and in is the new Presidential Blue. Gone too is the sameness that one always associated with military motorcycles. This one has sleek lines and stylish design.

From the sleek tank in azure blue, through the sparkling swooping exhaust pipes to the stylish black and aluminium wheels, this one is a real lady. And don't expect to see it anywhere else except on Escorts of Honour. In this colour pattern it will appear only on Escorts.

Taken all around, it is one of the nicest motor cycles about. It does everything you want a nice motor cycle to do, with none of the vices. It doesn't have excessive weight, high fuel consumption and unnecessary complication. It does have a smooth power band and superb handling.

38 years ago I joined the 2nd Motor as a Trooper. I only wish it was to-day.

For the motor cycle buff the details may be interesting:-

Engine

Type: Twin cylinder, air cooled, double overhead camshaft four-stroke. Pressed-up crankshaft with chain driven balancer weights. Roller main bearings, caged roller big and little ends. Four valves per cylinder operated by single looped chain from crankshaft.

Capacity: 498 cc.

Bore and stroke: 73 x 59.6 mm.

Compression ratio: 9.6 to 1

Carburation: Twin 34 mm. Mikuni carburettors with foam element filter.

PAKRITE LTD.,

BALLYMOUNT ROAD,
WALKINSTOWN,
DUBLIN 12.

Telephone: 507113

Manufacturers and suppliers of Checkout Packaging to the Retail Trade.

Manufacturers of Vacuum Formed Plastics in P.V.C. and Polystyrene.

Manufacturers of Single Faced Corrugated Paper.

A member of the Jefferson Smurfit Group of companies.

Lubrication: Wet sump

Electrics: 12 volt 14 amp hour battery charged by 190 watt alternator. Ignition by coil and contact breakers.

Claimed power: 49.0 bhp at 8,500 rpm. Maximum torque 32.6 ft/lb at 7,000 rpm.

Transmission

Primary: Gear at 3.579 reduction.

Clutch: Wet multi plate.

Gears: Overall ratios not available. Selection via left side, one down four up, foot change.

Final drive: Exposed, unlubricated chain.

Frame

All welded steel double tube cradle.

Suspension

Front: Telescopic fork, oil damped.

Rear: Twin sprung with five position adjustment for preload.

Wheels

Front: Cast seven-spoke wheel with 3.25 x 19 in., Bridgestone tyre. Single 11 in. diameter hydraulically operated disc brake.

Rear: Cast seven-spoke wheel with 3.25 x 19 in., Bridgestone tyre. Single 10 in. diameter hydraulically operated disc brake.

Instrumentation

Matching speedometer and tachometer, with central warning light stalk for indicators, oil pressure, main beam and neutral.

Equipment

3.3 gallon fuel tank, prop and main stands, electric starter and kick starter, indicators (self cancelling type) and single mirror.

45/40 watt headlamp.

Dimensions

Weight (claimed dry): 420 lb (191 Kg)

Wheelbase: 56 in. (1422 mm)

Ground clearance: 6 in (152 mm).

Seat height: 31 in (787 mm.)

Performance Data

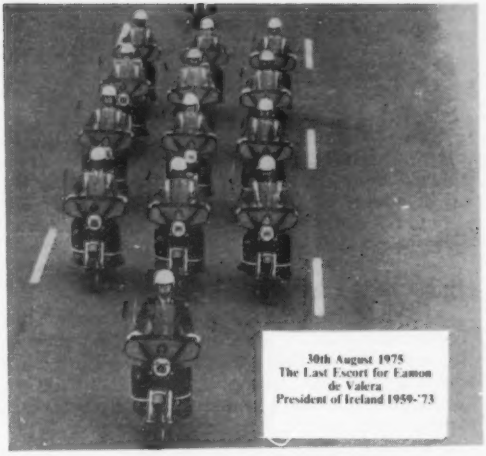
Fuel consumption: Average consumption during test period - 48 mpg.

Fuel quality: Three star.

Maximum speed: Maximum speed obtained with 147 lb (66 Kg) rider prone with racing leathers - 108 mph.

Anti-Gun

The anti-gun lobby is after the marksmanship program again. Some ill-informed people persist in believing that destruction of civilian marksmanship will "get the guns off the street". They apparently do not know that civilian marksmanship programs are sponsored by the U.S. Army in the interest of national defense. (Guardsman - US)



Reflections on a Motor Cycle Escort

The Machine we're told in hell was chained,
And for a number of years, it there remained,
Glowering and threatening in the Steamy Cauldron,
Til' they issued it to the 2nd Motor Squadron.

Standing there, in drab Olive Green
The wheels and the engine so peaceful, serene,
The kickstart poised, to strike the ankle
of the poor soul, detailed to crank it.

With Buckets of sweat, it snarls like a dog,
Covering the rider with oil and black smog,
How many ambassadors dive for the mire
As this horrible thing emits its backfire.

Tears of frustration, mar the face of the riders
As they stand there, so helpless beside her,
Paled with embarrassment, can't move from the scene
They swear and they curse at this monster in green.

Ribs have been broken, ankles have cracked,
As they kick the kickstarter, oh how it flies back,
Their faces so mirthy-oh how people look
As the howling D/R's draw their Medical book.

So next time you see an Escort Rider,
Be kind and be charitable as he wrestles beside her,
Don't laugh as he struggles back down the road,
With the monster in green, what a terrible load!

Capt. J. Dowling

HONDA YAMAHA EVINRUDE JOHNSON
Motor Cycles Outboard Motors
Bicycles

JOE DAWSON

(Ex Signal Corps)

TRIALS CHAMPION 1953 TO 1957

316 N.C.R., DALYMOUNT, DUBLIN

Telephone: 300947

Education in the Defence Forces (Part II)

Capt. P. Young AHQ

THIS month the range of courses available in the Naval Service and the Air Corps is considered. The range of technical courses available in both Services should be of particular interest to those concerned with their own educational advancement.

Naval Service

Professional Education

As well as the normal Potential NCOs (Line and Tech) and Senior NCOs Courses run by the Naval Service there are also courses to fit Ratings for advancement and promotion in Radar Plotting, Gunnery, Communications, Engineering, Administration and Cookery. Cadet courses are run in conjunction with the Military College and the British Royal Naval College. There is also a Direct Entry Officers Basic Course and a Standard Naval Officers Course for Direct Entry Officers of the Executive Branch. The courses for Rating generally last from three to six weeks while the NCO courses run between nine and eighteen weeks. Cadet training lasts for two years and the Basic DEO course is for two weeks while the Standard course is twelve weeks in duration. All courses are held in the Naval Base, Haulbowline except for the Cadets who also attend the Military College and the BRNC. No commitment is required for any of these courses.

Technical Education

Technical courses run by the Naval Service are of course professional in nature in that they are necessary for promotion. They include mechanician courses, Engineering (Engine Room Artificer, Electrical Artificer, Shipwright) courses. Radio/Radar Mechanic Courses, NBCD and Firefighting courses, and Defence of Merchant Shipping Courses (run for Merchant Sea Officers). All courses are run in the Naval Base, Haulbowline and are supplemented by "Block Release" courses at Cork Regional Technical College.

Mechanician courses vary from 4 to 6 weeks while the Firefighting and Defence courses are generally of one week's duration. The Engineering and Radio/Radar Mechanic Courses are apprentice-type courses, the first three years being undertaken at the Army Apprentice School in Naas, and then completed at the Naval Base. Ratings undergoing the apprenticeship courses must sign on for nine years in the Naval Service. There is no commitment for the other courses.

General Education

At the end of 1977 there were six NCOs and Ratings studying for the 2nd Class Certificate and two studying privately for the Leaving Certificate. One NCO was also studying for his B.A. in University College, Cork. Ten Ratings were taking a one-year full-time ANCO Fitters Course and six Ratings were in their third year of a Radio Mechanics Course, sponsored by the Signals Corps, at Cork Regional Technical College.

External and Overseas Courses

The following courses are run periodically for officers in the Executive Branch of Lieutenants rank or higher; Staff courses, Long Navigation and Long Gunnery Courses. They last from 3 to 6 months and are held in British Naval Colleges as are International Sub-Lieutenants Courses (9 months), Diver Courses (3 months) and International Midshipmans (Cadet) Courses (12 months). In the recent past Navaal Officers have also attended Staff Courses at the U.S. Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, U.S.A. On completion of such courses students are bound by commitments depending on the length of the course taken.

Air Corps

To simplify matters the Air Corps is divided into its respective Wings i.e. Flying Wing, Technical Wing and Air Traffic Control. The Air Corps apprentice School has already been dealt with in Part I of the series.

Flying Wing

Technical Education

1. Pilot "Wings" Training (SF 260 Warrior) (1½ yrs).
2. Twin Conversion (Dove and King Air) (6 month approx.).
3. Flight Leaders Course (Fouga Magister) (6 months approx.).
4. Helicopter Conversion (Alouette) (4 - 6 months).
5. Army co-operation (Cessna) (6 weeks).
6. Helicopter Winch Operator and Winchman's Courses (Alouette) (3 months).
7. Photographic Courses (3 - 6 months).

The qualifications required for Courses 1 to 5 are to be of Cadet standard while Courses 6 and 7 are normally at apprenticeship level though occasionally promising recruits can take part. All courses, except the Army Co-operation course which is held in Gormanston, are based in Baldonnel. The average success rate of Cadets on the "Wings" course is between 50% and 60% while the other courses have generally a 100% success rate. Successful Cadets are committed to sign on for ten years in the Air Corps on completion of their "Wings" course.

External and Overseas Courses

There are various courses on helicopter maintenance, works conversion courses on new aircraft (for pilots and technicians) and other technical courses. Pilots and technicians generally need some years experience before going on these courses and on completion are obliged to sign an undertaking depending on the type of course.

Technical Wing
Technical Education

For Apprentices who have successfully completed their apprenticeship, Continuation training (Technician) courses are held by the Technical Wing. Opportunities also exist for "Day Release" courses for technicians to attend at Technical Colleges (Bolton St. and Kevin St.) in order to further their technical knowledge. All technical subjects are covered and the courses last from one year to three years. During the 1977/78 school year, one Airman was undergoing a full time Motor Mechanics course. Two Airmen were also undergoing a Sheetmetal Workers course, attending one day per week and three others were attending a Carpentry course also for one day a week. Personnel involved in such courses may be required to sign on for a set period, depending on the type and cost of the course.

External and Overseas Courses

There are occasional technical courses on Engines, Airframes, Avionics etc. held abroad prior to the acquisition of new aircraft for the Air Corps.

Air Traffic Control
Technical Education

There are two courses run by ATC, the basic Air Traffic Control course and an Approach Radar course. Students must have either a Group or Intermediate Certificate before entry to each course and the courses are held in Baldonnel and Dublin Airport. The ATC course is of one years duration and includes the theoretical and practical aspects of ATC, Communications, Meteorology, Navigation, and Aviation hours. The Approach Radar Course is of six weeks duration and subjects include Principles of Radar, procedures, communication and Radar displays. Successful students qualify for extra pay and prospects of promotion are enhanced.

Approach Radar (6 weeks) and Aerodrome (4 weeks) courses are run in the Institute of Air Navigation in Luxembourg. A Group or Intermediate Certificate is the minimum educational requirement before entry and students are required to sign on for an extra three years upon successful completion of the courses.

Glenn Estates

Auctioneers - Valuers

Estate Agents

67 Phibsboro Road,
Phibsboro,
Dublin 7.
Telephone: 01-309632

We Sell Property

You will find our experience invaluable to you

No Sale—No Fees

International Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes 1979

Flight A 5 Days Via Cork
17-22 May. Fare £137

Flight B 6 Days Direct from Dublin
17-23 May. Fare £147

Book With
Rev. P. McCabe, H.C.F.
Office of Head Chaplin,
Dept. of Defence,
Parkgate,
Dublin 8.
Tel. 771881 Ext. 214

Irish Records:

ARMY

The President of Ireland is Commander-in-Chief of its modern Army whose traditions go back to the Fianna under Fionn Mac Cumhall during the reign of Cormac Mac Art in the third century. To-day's Permanent Defence Force is a well dressed, well equipped force.

Earliest Firearms: *The shooting of Godfrey O'Donnell by an O'Rourke in 1487 is the first recorded use of firearms although it is said that Lionel, Duke of Clarence possessed the first gun in 1361.*

First Cannon: *Cannon are first mentioned at Gerald Fitzgerald's taking of Belrath Castle, Co. Westmeath for Henry VII in 1488.*

Earliest Siege Guns: *The first field pieces were used to take Silken Thomas' Maynooth stronghold, the Gerald Fitzmaurice castle, in March 1535 by William Skeffington.*

Heaviest Bombardment: *50 cannon and 8 mortars fired 50 tons of powder, 600 bombs, 12,000 cannonballs and tons of stones in June 1651 when the town of Athlone, Co. Westmeath was attacked by 10,000 Williamites under Jodert de Ginkell.*

First Gunner: *Capt. Johnny Doyle of the Ordnance Corps took over an 18 pounder gun from the departing British troops in June 1922. He was in charge of the gun at the Four Courts action on 28 June 1922 when the new Army first fired Artillery.*

First Course Abroad: *Capt. M. J. Costello (later Major-General), Col. MacNeill, Capts. Dunne and Berry and Lts. Trodden and Collins-Powell, studied at Leavenworth, U.S.A. in 1926.*

Ceremonial: *The colourful 'Blue Hussars' or the 'Mounted Escort', first appeared in public at the Eucharistic Congress Ceremonies in 1932. The Cavalry Motor-Cycle Escort took over ceremonial duties in 1948.*

Yes Mam! *The only woman ever commissioned in the Army was Comdt. Brigid Lyons Thornton who participated as a doctor in the establishment of the Medical Corps in 1922. She witnessed the taking over of King George V Hospital (St. Bricin's) and Marlboro Convalescent Home (Colaiste Caoimhin) but was refused uniform allowance.*

Armour: *Earliest efforts at building an armoured car were made in 1922. Michael Collins'* Sliabh na mBan *is at the Cavalry Workshops, the Curragh.*

Numbering: *Officers and Men of the Defence Forces have serial numbers. The distinction of bearing 01 (Officers) went to Capt. J. P. Adamson. RI (Men) was the first number issued and it went to Leo Francis Murray, a woodworker, of 49 Townsend St., Dublin when 19 men enlisted at the Curragh on 28 June 1922.*

Oldest Occupied Barracks: *Collins Barracks, Dublin, occupied since c. 1704, the oldest occupied barracks in the world.*

Newest Barracks: *Monaghan Barracks, opened in 1976.*

Americans: *The first American troops on Irish soil arrived on 26 January 1942 as part of 'Operation Magnet'. The final war-time tally of American troops in Northern Ireland was 1,250,000.*

L.D.F.: *The Local Defence Force, forerunner of the F.C.A., was established on 1 January 1941. The F.C.A. came into being on 6 February 1946.*

Construction Corps: *A Corps of youths for road, bog, forest and general employment but non-combatant existed from October 1940 until March 1948.*

Tattoo: *The biggest ever was held at the R.D.S., Dublin in August 1945.*

Soldiering Family: *Four generations of the Carolan family from Ballysax, Co. Kildare have soldiered in four armies including the Australian army.*

A record 150 years service has been served by five brothers in our army by RSM Len Carolan, RQMS Tom Carolan, Sgt. Jim Carolan, Bandsman Bill Carolan and the late Sgt. Christie Carolan.

Marksman: *The man with most consecutive wins in the All-Army Rifle Individual Competition is Wexfordman, Company Sgt. Peter O'Connor of the Military College, winning in 1949, 1950 and 1951.*

Best Team: *The 12th Battalion won the All-Army Senior Rifle Team event in 1944, 1946, 1947, 1952, 1953 and 1967.*

In the Ring: *The First Army Boxing team to fight abroad went to England in 1924. In the Olympic Games of that year (Amsterdam) six of the seven-man Irish team were Army men.*

Peacetime Catastrophe: *A total of sixteen Army personnel were killed at a demonstration in the Glen of Imaal in May 1941. Another accident with a mortar occurred in the Glen killing five men, in May 1977.*

U.N. Participation: *The first soldiers to serve with United Nations abroad were a group of officer observers who left Ireland for Beirut on 27 June 1958.*

First Deaths Abroad: *A patrol of the 33rd Battalion under Lt. Kevin Gleeson of Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny was ambushed at Niemba on 8 November 1960; nine of its members were killed by Baluba tribesmen.*

First Posthumous Award: *Resulting from the Niemba ambush,* An Bonn Mileata Calmachta *(Military Medal for Gallantry) was awarded posthumously to Trooper Anthony Browne for exceptional gallantry.*

Desert Christmas: *The 25 Infantry Group under Lt. Col. Paddy Allen spent Christmas 1973 in Rabah in the Sinai desert.*

First Commanding Officer Abroad: *The first officer to command a battalion abroad was Lt. Col. Mortimer Buckley, an Offaly man, who was OC of the 32nd Battalion in the Congo. The unit left Ireland on 27 July 1960.*

U.N. Commander in Chief: *Lt. General Sean MacEoin was Commander in Chief of the United Nations Force in the Congo.*

Cyprus Chief: *Major General J. J. Quinn was appointed Force Commander of U.N.F.I.C.Y.P. (United Nations Force in Cyprus) in 1976.*

Most Overseas Service: *Most overseas service of all ranks was given by Col. Richard H. W. Bunworth. He served in the Congo during 1960-61 and in U.N.T.S.O. from 1965-67; 70-73 and 73-74.*

Long Time Cooking: *Sgt. George Shanahan enlisted on 27 February 1925 in Tipperary and served in both the Permanent Defence Force and the Reserve until 20 December 1976. Born at Goolds Cross, Co. Tipperary, George was chef in Custume Barracks Officers' Mess even after all his army service had ended.*

Zambians: *The First Zambian Cadets were trained alongside Irish Cadets in the Military College in 1967.*

Modern Champion: *While Paddy Dowdall (Boxing) and Danno O'Mahoney (Wrestling) were notable army performers the best athletic performance came on 28 August 1977 from S. Egan who threw the hammer 199 feet 8 inches at London.*

From The Mercier Book of Irish Records by Padraic O'Farrell. £1.50. Comdt. O'Farrell is Regional Defence officer for Longford, Westmeath, Laois, Offaly, and the author of several books. He is a regular contributer to this journal.

Marching Records - Military

Looking through recent editions of the Guinness Book of records I read several entries under the above heading referring to marching achievements by units of the British Army and others.

Considering that the 4th Bn. Marthon March of Sept. 12 1944 was a more noteworthy achievement than these, I sent details to the publishers of the Guinness Book, including an article on it from *An Cosantoir*.

Several letters were exchanged with the result that the 1979 Edition of the Book lists the achievement of B Coy 4th Bn of the Irish Army on the night of Sept 12 1944 immediately after the famous Chinese Long March.

This book is published in some 27 languages and, I believe after the Bible, is the worlds Best Seller, so "B" Company 4th Bn can justly claim to be one of the best known Infantry Companies in the world.

Col. M. N. Gill.
Deputy Judge Advocate-General.

China Watchers

But are China watchers deceiving themselves? Is China deceiving them or even itself? As Harold Isaacs argued in his classic examination of Americans' changing perceptions of China, *Scratches on Our Minds*, outside impressions of China have throughout history tended to oversimplify matters, to ignore China's complexity, its enormous population and land mass, and the dramatic problems of change and development that have confronted it. Indeed, the neat labels that foreigners have applied to China have often reflected the viewer's preconceptions, reinforced by selected aspects of Chinese behaviour. Outsiders' perceptions of China may even today not be free of such problems.

(Problems of Communism - US)

HECKLER & KOCH PISTOLS

Major Richard J. Keogh, USAR

HECKLER & Koch of Oberndorf, Germany, were one of the first firms to go back into firearms manufacture in Germany after the 1954 Peace Treaty. This firm has produced an extensive line of military arms, including pistols, rifles, and sub-machine guns. Their military pistol is called the P-9 and was introduced about 1970. H & K have used a roller locking system, similar to that used in the Czech M-50 Pistol, the Spanish CETME Rifle, and the WWII German StG.45(M) Rifle. The H&K P-9 series are the only pistols in the world using the roller locking system today. Other innovative features are the streamlined shape, the outside cocking lever, the polygon rifled barrel, and the extensive use of stampings. The H&K P-9 is simple to make, safe to use, and easy to conceal. It is offered in 9mm Parabellum (9x19mm), .45 Colt Automatic (11.43x23mm) and .38 Super Automatic (9x23SRmm) calibre.

The H&K P-9 series has been extensively exported, and the price is competitive with other makes of military pistols. The U.S. price has risen from $150 (£65) in 1971 to $300 (£160) in 1978. The only accessory offered with the pistol is a spare magazine. Any holsters encountered will be of commercial or local manufacture.

Summary:
Weight: 33 oz
Length: 7-5/8 inches (4-inch barrel)
Height: 5-1/2 inches
Capacity: 9 in 9mm and .38 Super, 7 in .45 Auto
Sights: Fixed, red insert on front, white outline on rear
Calibre: 9mm Parabellum, .45 ACP, .38 Super

The outside cocking lever allows the pistol to be carried uncocked with a round in the chamber. This condition is readily detected because the extractor rises high and displays a red mark when there is a chambered round. When the pistol is cocked a pin protrudes from the rear of the slide. These features make it easy to tell the condition of the pistol, day or night.

The polygonal rifling is unlike that used in any other arm. This feature is supposed to impart 15% more velocity, with less recoil, from standard ammunition. The markings imparted to the bullet are unlike those from standard land-and-groove rifling. Firearms identification and ballistic technician officers should become aware of the unique markings resulting from the H&K twisted polygonal rifling.

OFFICERS PROMOTIONS — DECEMBER 1978

Name	To	From	To
Gerard M. Gill	Lt. Col.	D. Engrs., QMG Br., AHQ Staff	Depot Engr.
Patrick J. Croke	Lt. Col.	S.O. (Comdt.), CS's Br., AHQ Staff	OIC (Lt. Col.), Sub Sec., Trg Sec, CS's Br., AHQ Staff
Maurice M. Collins	Comdt.	O/C (M.O.) (Comdt.), 4 Hosp. Coy.	Pl. Comd. (M.O.), Med Pl HQ Coy, 44 Inf. Bn. UNIFIL

NAVAL SERVICE

Francis M. Lynch	Lt. Cdr.	O/C, L.E. Fola	Retains O/C, L.E. Fola
Kieran R. Costello	Lt. Cdr.	O/C, L.E. Grainne	Retains O/C, L.E. Grainne

NCOs PROMOTIONS — DECEMBER

CQMS	Jordan, J.	Obs. Corps	BQMS
		(Transferred to Depot S & T Corps)	
Sgt.	Barry, W.	1 FAR	Coy/Sgt.
FQMS	O'Brien, F.	A/C	Flt./Sgt.
Sgt.	Crawley, S.	2 Fld. S & T	Coy/Sgt.
Sgt.	O'Hanlon, P.	18 Inf. Bn.	CQMS
PO	Carry, G.	NS	CPO
PO	Coleman, T.	NS	SPO
PO	Cronin, T.	NS	SPO

WESTERN COMMAND

The 28 Inf. Bn. Pl. which left for six months service with UNIFIL in November last. **Back Row:** Cpl. B. Doherty, Killygordan; Cpl. P. Roache, Ballina; Pte. T. McLoughlin, Castlefin; Pte. E. Martin, Mullingar; Pte. M. Murray, Lifford; Pte. J. Coll, Rathmilton; Pte. S. T. O'Kelly, Pte. G. Gilmartin, Sligo; Pte. T. Fallon, Athlone; Pte. T. Hetaty, Westport; Pte. E. Keane, and Pte. P. McDevitte, Castlefin. **Middle Row:** Sgt. I. Crawford, Lifford; Pte. F. Forde, Galway; Pte. D. Dunne, Dublin; Pte. R. McIlwaine, Milford; Cpl. B. Bradley, Killea; Pte. A. Hannigan, Killygordan; Cpl. M. McKnight, Dublin and Pte. K. McCann, Coolaney. **Front Row:** Cpl. J. Doohan, Falcarragh; Cpl. J. O'Neill, Buncrana; Pte. E. Cunningham, Manorcunningham; Pte. T. Price, Churchill; Sgt. T. Sweeney, Moville; Sgt. M. Doherty, Galway; Pte. K. Ryan, Ballyshannon; Pte. N. Foster, Ballyshannon; Pte. J. Lahy and Pte. J. McConley, Annagry.

W. Comd. Winners All Army Rugby Championship 1978

Back Row: Lt. Col. Sweeney (Comd. I.O); Capt. G. McNamara; Sgt. R. O'Hanlon; Capt. N. Byrne; Lts. M. Butler; K. McDaid; J. Byrne; M. Beary; I. Hanna; Cpl. P. O'Halloran and Cfr. B. Deegan (trainer). **Front Row:** Capt. L. O'Sullivan; Sgt. T. Conway; Col. J. Stewart (Comd. OC); Capt. M. Stapleton (Captain); Lt. T. Markham; Lt. B. O'Brien and Capt. S. Downes. (Photo: Sgt. P. Devaney).

At the 28 Inf. Bn. Shooting Competition at Finner Camp. L. to R: Sgt. Major Tom Cousins; C/S Christy Reidy and Comdt. Des Johnston. (Photo: Sgt. J. O'Brien) I.

Sp. Coy. Shooting Team 28th Inf. Bn. Finner Camp winners of The Bn. Shooting competition. Back Row: L. to R: C/S P. Neilan; Pte. D. Rooney; Comdt. P. McGreal; Pte. J. Callaghan; and Pte. F. McDonagh. Front Row: Pte. E. Lowbridge; Pte. J. O'Connor; Pte. L. Vaughan and Cpl. J. Sherriff. (Photo: Sgt. J. O'Brien).

Curragh Command

Forty lime trees were recently planted by children from the Vocational School at the Curragh Camp. The school principal Capt. P. Flynn (Retd.) is shown with the Comd. OC Col. P. D. Hogan. (Photo: Cpl. A. O'Brien).

Defence Forces Rugby XV who lost to Garryowen at the Curragh 26 pts. to 6. From from left: Captains C. Young, D. Fitzgerald, D. O'Keeffe, Lt. P. Comyn, Capt. F. O'Brien, Lt. G. White, Back: Sgt. T. Conway, Lts. J. Lynch, A. Murphy, G. Barry, K. McDaid, M. Beery, P. Ralfter, Capt. P. Gore. (Photo: Cpl. A. O'Brien).

Female Adjustment (1)

In brief, case review of female psychiatric inpatients and assessment of female volunteer soldiers suggested that females adjust to military life at least as well as their male counterparts. Specific interventions that could improve health care delivery to this group have been discussed.

(Military Medicine, U.S.)

Western Command (Contd.)

A "Mortar Lift" exercise during the 5th Field Artillery Regiment's annual camp in the Glen of Imaal. (Photo: Capt. Paul Rowan).

Pte. Fred Hewitt, 4 Fd. Sigs. Custume Bks. was a member of the Comd. team which won this year's All-Army title and he also played for Moate in the County Championship final. (Photo: Sgt. P. Devaney)

JAMES HEALY LTD.

ELECTRIC AND ACETYLENE WELDING

51a-54 PEARSE STREET, DUBLIN 2

Telephone: 01-772238/9

15a LR. JOHN STREET, CORK

Tel. 021-57052

Copper & Brass Finishers — Metal Stockists

T. P. NOLAN LTD.

FACTOR AND DIRECT IMPORTER

Motor Body Supplies —

Garage Sundries, Etc.

3 USHER'S QUAY, DUBLIN 8

Phone: 779331

AIR CORPS

Mr. Tom Farrington on behalf of Shamrock International Air Rally making a presentation to Col. J. O'Connor, OC Air Corps for the Officers Mess. Miss E. Mills, Secretary SIAR looks on. (Air Corps photo)

Wings Day at Baldonnell 19 December. 2/Lt. D. McCarthy receives his wings from Col. J. O'Connor, OC Air Corps.

2/Lt. A. Regan who received his wings and who also won the D.K. Johnson Trophy for the highest standard in flying with the donor Comdt. D. K. Johnson, Retd. and Comdt. J. O'Brien. (Air Corps photo)

Santa Claus arriving by helicopter for the children's party at Casement Aerodrome. (Air Corps photo).

Technical Wing Soccer Team, winners of the Camp League. Front L to R: A/M Gleeson; Cpls. Rowan, Bambrick; Grey; Spratt & A/M Crean. Back: A/M Slevin; Sgt. Roycroft; Cpl. Fitzpatrick; A/M M. McGee and Sgt. Murphy. (Air Corps photo).

The Apprentice School Choir with Fr. R. Field, C.F. practising for the Christmas ceremonies.

NAVAL SERVICE

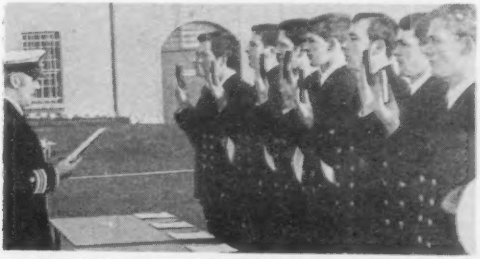
At the Naval NCO's Annual Dance held recently, Chief Petty Officer John Crowley, Rev. Fr. Michael O'Brien, C.F. (Chaplain, Naval Base, and Chief Petty Officer Pat Tumulty, President, Dance Committee. (Photo: N.S. Photo Sec.)

Mrs. Kavanagh admiring the Cross of Commander of Maritime Merit bestowed by the French Government on her husband, Captain P. Kavanagh, Commanding Officer Naval Service at a Reception in the French Embassy recently. In the centre is His Excellency, Mr. Jacques Dupuy, French Ambassador, who made the presentation on behalf of the French Government.

Recruit James Wall from Cork City with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wall and sister, Emily, after a recent Passing Out Parade. Mr. Wall is a former Army Sergeant who served in Collins Bks., Cork. (Photo: N.S. Photo Section).

Cunningham Cup winners 1978. **Back Row:** L. to R. S.P.O. W. Kane; A/Mech. B. Martin; A/Sea J. Casey; A/Wr. E. O'Halloran; A/Sea T. Farrell; A/Sea P. Nolan; A/Tel. P. Hodgers; Sgt. J. Norton and L/Sea N. Garrett. Front Row: A/Sig. P. Nolan; A/Sea Kane; L/Sa. M. Walsh; A/Mech. N. Paget and A/Mech. F. Jones. (N.S. photo).

Naval Service 7-a-side champions 1978. **Back Row:** L. to R. L/Wr. E. McCarthy; A/Wr. E. O'Halloran; Cpl. W. O'Donoghue; L/Wr. R. Brennan and L/Wr. P. Magee. **Front:** A/Br. K. O'Flynn; P.O. W. Carroll and A/Br. P. Feen. (N.S. photo)



Lt. Cdr. I Smith NS administers the Oath to Cadets at the Commissioning ceremony held recently in Naval Base, Haulbowline. From left: Ensigns B. O'Halloran, M. A. Mellett, B. O'Sullivan, T. Doyle, E. Barrett, G. O'Flynn, A. O'Dwyer, B. Hevers (N.S. Photo)

44 Inf. Bn. UNIFIL

(Pictures by A/M K. Canavan)

Bn. HQ at Tibnine. Pte. M. Finlay, S&T, in front.

Mr. Donnacha O Dúlaing from R.T.E., with 'B' Company at Bra Shit, with him Pte. J. Noonan and Capt. S. O'Meara.

Visit of the Force Commander to Irishbatt 29th December 1978, at Tiri. L. to R.: Comdt. J. Farrell, Lt. Col. V. Savino, Maj. Gen. E. Erskine, Lt. E. Culla, Capt. C. McNamara.

Staff from the Irish Embassy, Jeddah, visited Irishbatt last month. Capt. N. Farragher, 'A' Company, Shaqra, greeting Mr. N. Houlihan, and Mr. S. Whelan.

An armoured patrol entering "A" Company camp at Shaqra

Sentry on duty at 'A' Company camp at Shaqra.

44 Inf. Bn. UNIFIL

Lt. O. Barbour, Cpl. J. Curley, Tprs. J. Murray, B. McQuillan, J. Byrne, with other Cavalry personnel.

Irishbatt soccer team, who beat Iranbatt 3-1. Group includes Lt. A. Kilfeather, Sgt. B. Lindsay, Cpls. T. Egan, C. Johnston, G. Kinsella, P. Ross, A. McNamara, Ptes. J. Nicholls, J. Behan, M. Smith.

The D.A.G. Col. P. Daly being briefed by Comdt. B. Maguire at A1 Journ CP with, from left: Comdt. G. McMahon; Y. Kallas, a Lebanese policeman; Capt. M. Lucey, PSO to the A.G.

UNFICYP & UNTSO

(Pictures by Mr. Jack Merriman, R.T.E.)

Mr. T. McCoughran, R.T.E., with Sgt. N. Byrne, C/S I. Deegan and Sgt. J. Phelan, in Nicosia.

Photographer J. Merriman with Force personnel, including Sgt. N. Byrne.

UNTSO

Tom McCoughran with Capt. N. McCann and Capt. K. White of UNTSO at Giza

SOLDIERING ON!

Tom Noel MacAndrew[1]

RECENTLY, on the 32nd anniversary of my being demobbed from the Army of the **Emergency,** I was thinking to myself that if I had played my cards properly, and with considerably more tact, I could still be soldiering. And as I dawdles over a pint, the following scene presented itself to my mind's eye: I was in the mess finishing my lunch, with one or two stragglers similarly engaged. The new Command O/C and his Executive Officer were chatting at the top table.

Command O/C: "Who's that old lieut. colonel below there? He seems a bit long in the tooth for a man still serving.

E. O. Oh, that's Old Tom MacAndrew, sir. He must be near 70. He's had endless extensions of service to enable him finish the project he's engaged on.

Command O/C: Which is?

E. O. Well, sir, it is some research project started before my time. It seems to deal with working out procedures for the moving of stores between Divisions and Commands, under war conditions. It was actually started, I understand, by some discrepancy which arose between Western Command and the 4th Brigade of the 2nd Division, during World War II.

Command O/C: Back in old god's time, eh?

E. O. Exactly, sir.

Command O/C: And how are we involved in this.

E. O. We are not involved at all, sir. He attached to us for pay rations and discipline. It seems GHQ wished him to locate in a neutral command, so to speak.

Command O/C: I'd better have a word with him. Make my number in reverse, as it were (laughter).

E. O. Waiter! My compliments to Colonel MacAndrew. Ask him to report when he is finished his meal.

There I was, a grey, baldy, arthritic old officer, long past retiring age . . . but I had better tell my story. This really commences when I rode into Ballinamore, in north Leitrim, on November 26, 1941, to take over the local military post from the 12th Cyclist Squadron, who had a troop there. The post consisted of the village hall and two army huts. It raison d'etre was on the stage of the village hall on which were stacked 50 x 25 lb land mines, the detonators for same being in the officer's room. The mission was to use the land mines to blow certain bridges and roads if John's Lot[2] started to make a move south. Cyclist troopers being trained demolition men. The take-over didn't take long, the only item I disputed was fifty tons of turf, which had been badly clamped and hadn't weathered well. As I couldn't see how it might be used I declined to sign for it. My opposite number didn't make any fuss, as he mentioned the 3rd Cyclists had cut and saved the turf, and it probably wasn't on charge. Anyway one could buy a ton of coal from the open cast pit down the road for thirty bob (£1.50).

We stayed in Ballinamore for three months, and then conditions on the Border being easier, apparently, we were recalled to the Curragh for training and the post was handed back to the civilians. When I say "recalled for training" it will be appreciated that after three months bed-and-patrol routine any squadron would get a bit "hairy". In retrospect, however, they seemed to be "all edge" and as bright as button-sticks compared with the long-haired types one sees in uniform today, but that has always been the way, I suppose.

Then I got a sort of promotion in the Curragh. Routine Orders duly noted:

"0.5665 Lieut. Thomas Noel MacAndrew FROM Troop Commander 11 Cyc. TO 2nd in command 12 Cyc. This meant I was still a "lieut" but was now an accounting officer, being sort of QM and ADJ. rolled into one.

The 12th Cyclist were stationed in Cavan Barracks at the time, so I said good-bye to the Three S's and made my way north. I found the 12th were out on manoeuvres with 2nd Brigade, and had left no word for me, so I stayed put, and as an indication that the Devil always finds work for idle hands, and to illustrate my sometimes lack of tact I shall relate the incident of the LDF rifles. A borrowed lorry arrived one Sunday morning for 100 rifles for an LDF guard of honour, as the rifles were in barracks and in my custody, I inquired who was the guard for. I was told the local bishop. I produced DFR A 5 and pointed out that the only clergyman who was entitled to a guard of honour was the papal nuncio, and only then because he was a diplomat. No rifles! To cut a long story short someone found a GHQ major who was on a local fishing holiday. Now he had the clout to order me hand over the rifles, but he didn't. He said, in effect: "Look here old man we all know bishops aren't entitled to guards of honour, but we must keep the LDF morale up and exercise them in arms. A real Guard of honour must be proclaimed in routine orders in advance, and the number of officers, NCO's and men, to say nothing of trumpeters and drummers, detailed. This guard of honour exists, if I may so phrase it, in the minds of the local LDF, solely, let's not have any more fuss about it, shall we?" So of course I handed over the rifles, and made a mental note that they had, at least, one intelligent officer in GHQ.

1 Mr. MacAndrew served in the Cavalry Corps during WW II. Pre-War he contributed a 'Talk of the Town' column to the Dublin *Evening Mail.*

2 John's Lot was a familiar term for the British Army in my day. By amazing coincidence it was the British Army's old nickname for the East India Company's army, as the company was always referred to as "John Company", for some reason.

During my permanent service I was with six different units at various times but when I think back on those days I can thoroughly agree with George MacDonald Frazer when he wrote: "Generally sharing that astonishing experience, which for some reason men seem to prize so highly: having been a soldier! It does not matter what happens to them afterwards, or how low, or how high they go; they never forget that ageless company to which they once belonged." For me "that ageless company" was the 12th Cyclist Squadron. When they disbanded all cyclist squadrons in January 1945, I think they made a mistake.

That's how I came to be in Allenwood Camp with the 2nd Motor Squadron detatchment in Summer 1945, when I received a letter, addressed to Lieut Noel MacAndrew. It read "It seems you were the last officer in charge of Ballinamore Military Post and handed it back to civilian control on March 26, 1942. Please say how fifty tons of peat-fuel on charge to that post were disposed of." Signed: for P. Tierney, Comdt. QM Western Command. Well, talk of my past catching up on me! I duly replied: "Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge your AN/U/2 re turf at Ballinamore Military Post, and wish to say the 12th Cyclist Squadron had invited me to take it on but I declined to sign for it on the ground that it could not be used for fuel. I have the honour to be, etc., Noel MacAndrew Lieut. Former officer i/c Ballinamore M.P." Serving officers will note the manner in which the letter was worded. Good manners was compulsory in the old days! I forgot to mention the letter was routed care of "officer i/c Records". The next letter came to me as Quartermaster, former 12th Cyclist Squadron, enclosing copy of letter from Lieut Noel MacAndrew, and asking for my comments, which were "Sir, I have the honour to refer to your AN/U/2 re fuel at Ballinamore. It seems that Lieut Noel MacAndrew is a regimental officer and not an authority on fuel. If he did not wish to take over the fuel, it was left in his charge, and he should have referred the matter to the appropriate authority. I have the honour to be, etc. Tom MacAndrew Lieut. 2nd i/c 12th Cyclist Squadron (disbanded)."

In due course a copy of this letter reached Allenwood Camp, via Western Command HQ, addressed to Lieut Noel MacAndrew, who, I may tell you, strongly resented the implication that he was not an authority on turf. Most Irishmen can hold forth for hours on this topic!So he was driven to reply as follows which may be condensed as: "I would point out that the said turf was in Lieut Tom MacAndrew's charge and as far as I am concerned still is. It was his duty to seek an appropriate authority's decision in this matter."

In the fullness of time, the letter arrived, courtsey Command QM Western, and I decided the time had come to slap down on Lieut. Noel MacAndrew, as follows, frills ommitted, "Lieut. Noel MacAndrew took over Ballinamore Military Post on 26/11/41 and evacuated it on, I understand, 26/3/42. The fuel in question was in his care and custody between the dates quoted. When the post was evacuated, all military fittings and equipment were removed and the QM of the 4th Brigade was present (Actually it was the asst. QM., Captain Norman Coy, with whom I had soldiered in the 1st (City of Dublin) Battalion) V.R., Lieut. Noel MacAndrew then had the opportunity to have the fuel inspected on the spot but apparently neglected to do so.

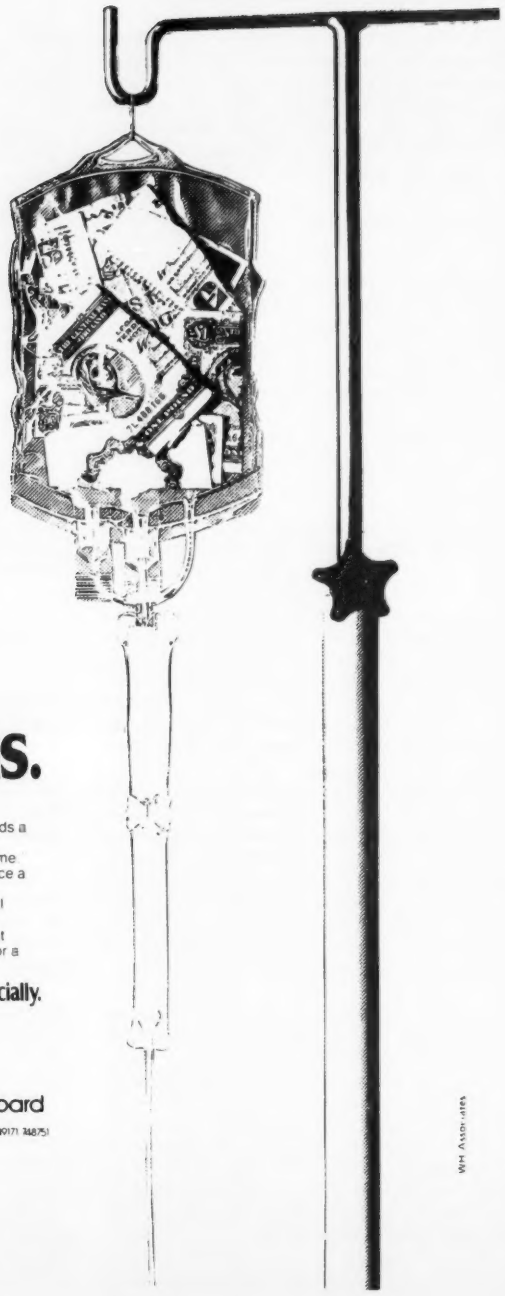
Now he hopes to avoid responsibility at this late stage is not for me to say, but the responsibility is undoubtedly his. I have the honour to be, etc., Tom MacAndrew Lieut. 2nd i/c 12th Cyclist Squadron (disbanded)."

This was the letter which made a bags of it all! If I hadn't dragged in the 4th Brigade, I could have kept the ball rolling right down to the present day, as per the little scene portrayed at the beginning. Of course it wouldn't do to keep on writing to myself. I'd have had to introduce new blood so to speak from time to time A Recce on Q Branch Army HQ would probably reveal a young staff officer, who was low in files. Good! Copy him each time, i.e., "cc Staff Officer Q Branch, Sec. 6c." He wouldn't know what the hell it was all about but would be delighted to learn some one knew of his existence. Next introduce something extraneous, in this manner "Noted Wagons, limber G.S., pole-draught, long rein, pair-driven, 22, on main road of Phoenix Park." Such a note would produce a "So what!" comment, the only danger would be that the staff officer "Q" would race round the park looking for these vehicles of a bygone age! Well, I suppose it would keep his weight down.

Next move would be to give your letters a sub-head, something which would not suggest anything to QM Western Command, like "Sallynoggin Project". It wouldn't mean anything to anybody, but it might mean that someday you might sign yourself "Officer i/c Sallynoggin Project." Then you'd have arrived!

But as I say, I made a bags of it. I mentioned the 4th Brigade. As a result the file was presented to the QM Western for a decision. He read it and then blew all his gaskets calling on God to strip the belt off that "Sanctified Sod" who was using hardworked staff to write letters to himself. He was heard as far away as "The Thatch" and slates were removed from the roof of the "Long Valley".

And the 4th Brigade had written-off the turf in 1943 but had omitted to copy Western Command. It was army-won turf and hadn't involved any expenditure of public funds.



We give money transfusions.

After being in hospital everybody needs a money transfusion.

Don't try and say "It won't happen to me". Every year one in three families has to face a hospital bill.

And hospital bills are getting heftier all the time.

VHI gives you protection for just about everything except normal childbirth. All for a few pounds a year.

VHI gets you back on your feet, financially.

VHI

Voluntary Health Insurance Board

VHI HOUSE 20 LOWER ABBEY STREET DUBLIN 1 TELEPHONE (01) 749171 748751

WH Associates

WHAT THE PAPERS NOTICE

UNIFIL

Conor O'Cleary of *The Irish Times*, one of the correspondents who visited Lebanon last year, still maintains an interest. In a front page article headlined "Protest at shelling of Irish troops" he gave some details of the efforts being made to provide a more trouble free tour of duty for the 44th Bn. According to Conor -

'The Government has protested officially to Israel about its continued support for right-wing Christian forces in South Lebanon, it was learned yesterday. The Israeli-backed Christian militia have been shelling Irish and other UN troop positions in South Lebanon regularly for four months.'

The Irish protest is understood to have been lodged with the Israeli permanent representative at the United Nations in New York, in concert with other nations with troops in UNIFIL. These include Canada, France, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway and Sweden.'

Donncha O Dulaing, a more recent visitor to Lebanon, impressed Mervyn Wall the Radio Critic of the *Irish Press* with his forthright views on the problems of the Irish in the Middle East. Mervyn Wall reported that Donncha 'was very properly offended when an Israeli official seeing his Irish passport said "From the sublime to the ridiculous".'

'He found the Irish troops very impressive, patient yet determined in a most difficult situation. It was clear from his account of their activities that our troops are being kept very busy, that their morale is high, and that they are very popular with the local Arab population.'

Defence Secrets

Apropos Military Intelligence, Brian Quinn of the *Irish Independent* discovered that 'for £3 on Charing Cross Road, London, or by post, most, if not all, of the Defence Forces' secrets may be secured. Brian had discovered the Military Balance. Why he had to go to Charing Cross Road when it is published at Adam St. is another matter but it is bad enough for our secrets to be revealed without us prying into Brian's goings-on in London.

Brian obviously bought three copies, 76/77, 77/78 and 78/79, and made a further discovery - someone has been mucking about with our armoured might. In 1976/77 Brian calculated that we had 100 armoured vehicles if one included the Landsverks. In 1977/78 the 'Landsverks appeared to have gone into a long overdue retirement while another eight mortar-carrying Panhards had been acquired. We therefore had 102 armoured vehicles.' But in 1978/79 according to the M.B. and B.Q. our total was 72. As Brian Quinn wrote 'There has been a drop therefore in armoured vehicles of 30. What has happened to them?'

Ex.Sgt. Michael Fennell who recently retired after 34 years service mainly in Baldonnel with his sons Sgt. Michael, Cpl. Gerard and Pte. Tom Eugene, Paul and Brendan. (Photo: Cpl. J. O'Brien)

What indeed. Which only goes to show that even £3 on Charing Cross Road does not yield fulfillment.

Brian finishes on a hopeful note. 'With E.E.C. funding the Naval Service, as well as the Air Corps, can look to the future with hope. For the rest of the Defence Forces only time will tell.'

'However, with Rhodesia and Namibia looming up along with Lebanon and Cyprus it is highly unlikely that the Defence Forces will be allowed to decline into their former (pre 1973) publicly admitted 'run down' condition.'

Congratulations

First bouquet of the year to the brave men of Kilkenny Fire Service who reached Stephens Barracks in two minutes to fight a blaze in a billet block. The *Irish Independent* headline read 'Record Turnout Saved Ammo Store Big Bang'. How they refrained from 'Cats on a Hot Tin Roof' we'll never know.

According to the *Irish Times* 'The firemen made a record dash to the scene and within two minutes of the alarm being raised, six men wearing breathing apparatus were fighting the flames. Inside ten minutes the outbreak was brought under control.'

It appears that by a most fortuitous happening there was a full complement of the Kilkenny Brigade holding a night training session when the alarm was raised. The session should have been held on the previous evening, Monday, but because of the New Year Bank Holiday the training night was changed.

When O/C Kilkenny is sending his note of thanks to the Fire Chief maybe he should send a copy to Mr. Michael O'Leary, T.D. Wasn't he the Minister who decided we should have a holiday on New Years Day?

The prompt action reminded us of the fabled O/C Gormanston Camp who was in the habit of getting his Sgt. Major to start a small fire in safe areas of the camp and then sending for the Fire Officer to inform him of the conflagration. On one occasion his security screen was breached and he was just about to say 'There is a fire in the miniature range' when the Fire Picquet dashed past his office straight to that location. There they drenched the Sgt. Major who was just striking the match to start the 'outbreak'.

Another Phoenix

Last month we mentioned the publicity given by all the papers to the re-activation of the 44th Battalion for services overseas. By a Christmas coincidence the December issue of *Soldier News* mentioned the raising of a new Transport Squadron in the British Army. The report went 'A new transport squadron is to be raised at Tidworth as part of the plan to increase the Army's strength by 4,100 men.'

It will be known as 66 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, and will be able to trace its origin back to 1902 when 66 Horse Transport Company was raised in DUBLIN.'

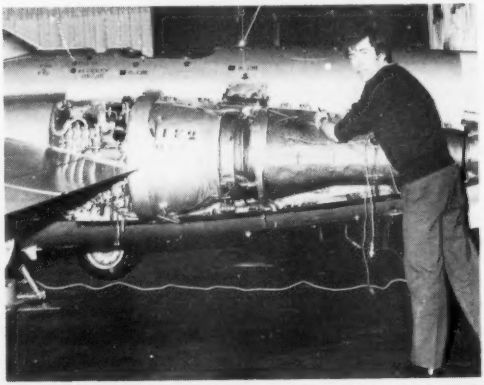
We wonder if some of our historians know where 66 H.T. Company started off?

The issue of *Soldier News* was No. 3 and the front page was graced by a picture of lovely Caz Smith clad only in long hair and a silver bangle. She did have a previous edition of the paper strategically placed and the caption informed all and sundry that her husband, of seven months, was 'a Sergeant-instructor in the Army Physical Training Corps'. Incidentally *Soldier News* is published by the British Ministry of Defence. We await with bated breath a similar publication from D.O.D.

Col. C. McGuinn, AHQ, who has gone to India to undergo the 19th Course at the National Defence College in New Delhi. The Course is of one year's duration.

Foireann I.R.A.M. Ballincollig, Buaitheoirí Dhospoireacht Ceann Deiseart 1978. On Clé: Gnr. T. Ó Driscéoil, Gnr. P. MacCarthaigh, Leift M. Breathnach, & Gnr. F. Ó Ceannaigh. (Photo: Cpl. D. Magennis).

Keeping the correct score at the 28 Inf. Bn. Shooting competition L. to R. Lt. C. Ryan; Pte. J. Mahon and Sgt. C. Dunleavy. (Photo: J. O'Brien).



Helping to keep them airborne is A/M F. Corrigan of Fighter Sqn. hard at work on a Fouga Magister in Baldonnel.

Members of the Carlow Bde. on a training course at Ducketts Grove, Carlow November 1921. In Front: L to R: Comdt. Hickey, OC 6 Bn (Father of Tom Hickey of the Riordans); Comdt. Kehoe, OC 2 Bn; Comdt. Brennan, Bde. QM; Comdt. Stack, Bde. OC; Comdt. Finn, OC 5 Bn. and Comdt. Lawlor, Bde. Training Officer. (Photo: Courtesy Capt. J. Meehan, Retd.)

Kerrymen

Book reviewers in all the papers praised David Kahn's *Hitler's Spies*, a massive work described by one reviewer as 'The book on German Military intelligence in World War II.'

There are a number of entries regarding Ireland the most extensive being the account of one Walter Simon who was landed in 1940 to send back convoy and weather reports to German Naval Intelligence. As Kahn writes 'On the night of 12 June, the submarine slipped cautiously into lovely Dingle Bay, at the southwest tip of the Emerald Isle. Simon was rowed ashore in a dinghy. He buried his radio set, then hiked until he reached a railway, and began walking along it. In the morning he met some workmen and asked them when the next train ran.

"The last train here ran fourteen years ago - said one."

Well, Simon continued along the line to Tralee. He noticed three men watching him who chatted with him on the train to Dublin and who arrested him as a member of the I.R.A! "Inside the brown paper parcel he carried the police found his money; later they dug up his radio set. He was convicted and jailed in Mountjoy Prison, Dublin.

The intriguing part of all this is the mention of the three Kerrymen who were still 'working' on the line,

'RESTING ON'

Sgt. Peter Campbell, B. Coy 21 Inf. Bn. who recently celebrated 21 years with the FCA.

fourteen years after the last train had passed. No wonder they call it the permanent way. Have they been tracked down yet. Maybe they're still at it.

Singles Only

Tomas 'O Beannachain, (Comdt. retd.) was worried about Recruitment for the Gardai and wrote to the Minister for Justice about it. Luckily he sent copies to the papers also so we saw it in the *Irish Press*.

Tomas felt that by setting out that an applicant must 'be unmarried' several articles of the Constitution are being breached. 'Surely' he writes 'this must be a misprint, because were it not a misprint, it would have remarkable implications and telling consequences for our people at home and abroad.'

'If you can deny admission to An Garda Siochana to married men, the same stroke of the same pen - that is, the Government's pen - can deny unemployment benefit, or medical attention or a birth certificate, or Baptism to all citizens.'

When did the Government take over the Baptismal rights? Not another new Ministry.

Tomas concludes 'a married man cannot be denied anything because he is a married man' and looks forward 'to prompt correction of the appropriate documents.'

Surely Comdt. O Beannachain experienced a number of Recruiting Drives during his colourful career when the Defence Forces also decreed that married men were ineligible for enlistment. Maybe we breached the Constitution too!

RQMS J. Kenny who retired after 41 years service receiving a presentation from Lt. Col. C. McGoldrick, O.C. St. Bricins Hospital, Dublin. (Photo: K. Barry)

1474 A.D.

1474 AD marks the first recorded case in which a plea of superior orders was rejected as a defence. However, the accused in that case had committed little less than wholesale butchery. Since then Servicemen, although acting in accordance with orders, have been found guilty on charges of killing a prisoner whose retention could have endangered an entire platoon and killing an unarmed enemy in circumstances which accorded with approved military training. Under existing law there is no longer any doubt that the defence of superior orders cannot operate where gross violations of basic human standards have been committed. Beyond that, many significant issues remain unresolved.

(Defence Force Journal - Australia)

Lt. Col. Cyril Joyce, who retired recently, was the recipient of a presentation from his friends at a function in St. Bricin's Officers' Mess, Dublin. The Dir. AMC, Col. L. O'Toole, who made the presentation, spoke of Lt. Col. Joyce's many years of dedicated service in the Corps, a service which began in 1941 in the 6 Fd. Ambulance, and finished in the Eastern Command, where he held the appointment of CMO. Much of Lt. Col. Joyce's service was in the Curragh Military Hospital, and he was OC there from 1965-1976. He served with the 34 Inf. Bn. ONUC in 1961, and in his youth he was a cadet in the OTC from 1932-35. The Director AMC wished him many years of happiness in his retirement.

Decision Making

There is every reason to believe that management decision making is, and, in the past has been, difficult in military operations. Therefore, every opportunity should be taken to simulate decision-making on the battlefields on which wars will be fought. Game theory provides the peace-time venue for management training. However, only by going into the field can the full impact of the plans and strategies of professional managers be tested - via sub-professionals to their operatives. Side benefits such as scientific tests on equipment and people give further justification for field rather than classroom teaching and games.

(Defence Force Journal - Australia)

Female Adjustment (2)

The social adjustment of female soldiers was investigated by structured interviews with volunteers and chart review of psychiatric inpatients. Females experienced comparable job satisfaction and peer acceptance. They reported a better social adjustment, while a matched group of male volunteers reported more boredom and loneliness, as well as a more frequent use of alcohol. No differences in diagnosis, treatment, or outcome were noted in the comparisons between psychiatric inpatients. The implications of increasing the per cent of women comprising the active duty military force were considered from a health care perspective.

(Military Medicine - U.S.)

Resettlement

What Major MacIntosh was demonstrating was the latest automatic aid to the Army in finding jobs for those returning to civilian life. Called a high speed card selection device, it matches up men and jobs rather in the same way as a computer dating service claims to find your most suitable partner.

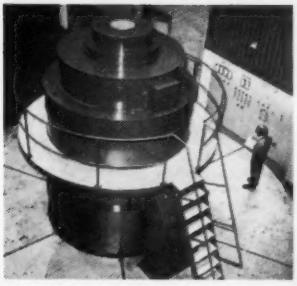
Today's Serviceman may be in his early forties at retirement and never have been for a job interview - having joined up straight from school. From an isolated and specialised military life he is to be thrown into the cauldron of the commercial world with its profit motive and complex industrial relations. To see that this transition takes place smoothly and beneficially is the job of the Army resettlement people.

(Soldier - England)

Whole Man

Hospitals have a responsibility to treat the Whole Person rather than simply responding to the chief complaint of the patient. The increased trend toward specialization, the large number of patients, and dwindling resources frequently combine to block consideration of psychosocial aspects of the patient's presenting problem. Numerous studies attest to the concurrent presence of organic and behavioral disorders. As a way of addressing total patients needs, Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Georgia, has developed a program whereby patients manifesting psychosocial difficulties are referred to a social work assistant who works full time in the outpatient Clinic-Emergency Room.
(Military Medicine - US)

Achievement



We treasure the past but we work for the future.

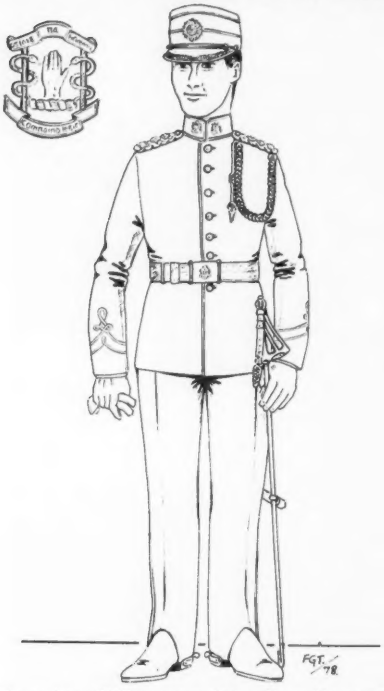
The ESB Turlough Hill Scheme is the largest civil engineering project ever carried out in this country. Costing £22m, the country's first pumped storage station took 6 years to complete.

In the development of schemes like Turlough Hill, Allied Irish Banks play a vital part with large-scale financing packages suited to project needs.
Call it our committment to the Irish way of life.

Allied Irish Banks
Banking for a better future

UNIFORM SECTION : No. 1

by F. Glenn Thompson



This section will illustrate and describe uniforms which did not appear in the Uniform Issue of An Cosantoir, May 1975.

MEDICAL SERVICE OFFICERS' FULL DRESS UNIFORM, 1935-1955

The basic colours of this uniform were Medical blue, cherry and gold. Medical blue is a slightly lighter shade than dark blue, with a slight tinge of purple. It will be referred to as blue in this article.

SHAKO: Blue whipcord, front 5" high and back 3½" high. The crown was of cherry facing cloth which overlapped the sides to the extent of ¼"; the seam was covered by a row of 3/16" gold Russia braid. On the crown was a line of blue tubular cloth ½" from the edge, and, on the centre of the crown was a gold wire interlaced design, half way down the side of the shako was a line of cherry piping. The Army Cap Badge in gold wire, the star edged in cherry thread; the centre portion consisting of the belt and the F.F. monogram was raised on cherry silk. All this workmanship was on a ground of cherry facing cloth. The chin-strap of twisted gold cord with two runners, was held in position by two small gold buttons crested with the Army Badge. Black patent leather peak 2¼" deep with gold fern leaf embroidery around the edge for Field Officers.

TUNIC: Blue whipcord. Collar of cherry facing cloth with slightly rounded corners; a row of 3/16" gold Russia braid was fitted around the base; the front and upper edges of the collar were piped with blue. A pair of gold service badges, were placed 1" from the collar opening. The badges consisted of an upper scroll inscribed "Oglaigh na hEireann" and a lower scroll inscribed "Comraind Legis"; the scrolls were joined on each side by a staff around which a serpent was entwined, and, in the centre of the badge a silver right hand. A white linen collar showed 1/16". The left front edge of the tunic was cherry with seven large gold buttons, which bore the harp and the letters "I.V." The space between the last two buttons was sufficient to allow the belt to sit properly. At the back of the tunic the two top buttons were plugged on the waist seam at the top of the slashes. The other two buttons of each slash were plugged equi-distant and close to the pleat. The slashes were of cherry facing cloth and were edged with 3/16" gold Russia braid. The buttons were the same size as on the tunic front. The centre seam was piped with cherry facing cloth. Each slash was two pointed, with the points facing towards the centre seam and measured 2¼" wide at the bottom point; 2" at the centre and tapering to ¾" at the waist. The cuff was pointed and was of cherry facing cloth, surmounted with two rows of 3/16" gold Russia braid. The cherry facing cloth was 6" high at the point and 2¼" high at the hind arm seam; a ¼" strip of cherry facing cloth was worn between the two rows of braid. The upper row of braid formed a three looped "crow's foot" design and the lower row a single loop. The overall width of the bottom loops of the "crow's foot" was 1¼" and that of the top loop 7/8". The width of the lower loop was ½". White linen cuffs showed 1/16" and white doeskin or buckskin gloves were worn. The epaulettes were made of interlaced gold cord and were fitted to the tunic by a screw button, in such a way as to allow the lanyard of plaited gold cord to be worn on the left shoulder, and to be fastened to the epaulette button by a loop. The lanyard terminated in an acorn. A **Major's*** insignia of one bar and two diamonds were worn on the epaulette; the bar was made of gold embroidery wire on a scarlet facing cloth base 2" long and ¾" wide, the diamonds likewise and measured 1" diagonally from point to point and worn diagonally ½" apart. The waist belt was made of cherry Morocco leather 1¾" wide with two bands of ¾" gold Shamrock lace; between the bands was woven ½" of cherry silk and ¼" of cherry Morocco leather showed at the outer edges of the lace The buckle and the collar badge, which was soldered to the centre of same, were both brass.

OVERALLS: Blue barathea cloth with a single cherry facing cloth stripe 1½" wide. Boots: Black full or half Wellingtons or black elastic sided Alberts were worn, fitted for nickel steel box spurs.

CLOAK: The cloak of black facing cloth hung down to within 10" of the ground. The collar was of black velvet. The clasps and chain were gold. Lining of cherry silk. The cloak was worn thrown back over the left shoulder to show cherry lining to effect and to carry the sword unhindered.

SWORD: The hilt which contained the Army Badge and the scabbard were brass. The sword slings, suspended from a belt under the tunic were made of cherry Morocco leather 1" wide and faced with ¾" gold Shamrock lace. The sword knot of gold Shamrock lace terminated in a medium sized gold acorn.

Sources: Adjutant General's Provisional letter of 5th February, 1936; Quartermaster General's "Specifications of 1st December, 1937. The Actual Uniform and Equipment.

* The rank of Major was abolished in 1954 and substituted by Lieutenant-Colonel.

BOOK REVIEWS

KILKENNY, ITS ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY. Edited by Katherine M. Lanigan and Gerald Tyler. Kilkenny Association of An Taisce. £5.99.

Kilkenny, it has long been accepted, is the most interesting, both historically and architecturally, of our cities, excluding (possibly) the capital. The long reign there of the Butlers, a continuity of public spirited officials and educated citizens ensured the preservation of the major buildings, and the early establishment of an antiquarian society. Today the city is home to active archaeological, musical, art, literary and preservationist groups, and the publication of this splendid guide book is due to the efforts of An Taisce and a team of enthusiastic researchers. Smithwick's Brewery is to be complimented on sponsoring the publication, while the editors, Mrs. Lanigan and Mr. Tyler, respectively a native and a newcomer to Kilkenny, are likewise to be congratulated.

The history of the city is outlined, buildings of national importance listed and, in a street by street tour, individual houses are described, with suitable comments on their visual value and on recommended or damaging alterations. The use of maps, old and new drawings and photographs enhance the layout of the well printed and produced text. It is a pleasant book to look through, and a valuable one to bring when on a visit to Kilkenny. Similar works on other areas should be an encouragement to the planning authorities, and to those people anxious to see the best of our heritage preserved. C.

'SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE' John Horsfall. The Roundwood Press, Kineton, Warwick. £3.75.

The success of a previous work 'The Wild Geese are fighting', - about the Royal Irish Fusiliers in Tunisia 1942-1943, - has encouraged the author to write a similar account of his battalion's experiences in the Battle of France. The subject matters are as different as could be. The Tunisia-Algeria campaign, too long drawn out, was not in itself particularly interesting; nor particularly well conducted; nor of a global strategic importance. After Alamein, November, 1942, the Axis forces in North Africa were ultimately doomed, for the allies had at last acquired naval supremacy in the Mediterranean. The battle of France lasted little more than a month, but altered the whole state of the war, and indeed the world.

For that reason, countless books have been written about it by all sorts of authors, generals, academics and journalists. One would have thought therefore that a somewhat scrappy account of the rather passive doings of a single unit could add little of interest. But there are advantages in the worm's eye view, provided it is authentic and contemporary. The present work seems to have derived from a few diaries kept at the time (contrary to all regulations) by officers, from the regimental war diary compiled later in England (these are notoriously unreliable) and from memories by a few survivors collected thirty-five or so years after the event.

The most distinctive features in this book are accounts of those unlikely, one would think impossible, events which do in fact occur during confused, mobile and unsuccessful operations. For example, the two gallant French crews, who deserted their own disintegrating army, and latched themselves on to the British, who were still prepared to fight. So for days on end they poured their fire into the advancing Germans, without any attempt to take cover. The other side of their skill was shown in an ability to select villages and houses with a good stock of brandy and champagne, with which they replenished their ammunition lockers.

The narrative springs to life in the final evacuation from Dunkirk, which everyone knows was hell on earth, but is here revealed as a most competent operation. The retreating troops were stopped at the defended perimeter Bergues; horses were taken to one flank and quietly shot, vehicles to the other flank and quietly burnt. The troops were carried in buses to the beach inferno. Here they were taken in charge by an elderly Horse Artillery Major, with a scarlet and gold forage cap, Saville Row breeches and we may hope properly polished top boots and spurs. "I'm a double blue at this, old boy - I was at Mons." With him was a Guards Ensign, with the initials E.S.O. on his brassard. "Embarkation Staff Officer. Quite ridiculous, - I was lunching at the Berkeley last Wednesday." Then the author slid down a rope to an overcrowded lighter, to be given exquisitely cut sandwiches and cocoa, so to Ramsgate and copious cups of tea, and then to fight another day.

A final cautionary tale about a 2nd Lieutenant who finding his train halted at a station near his home, dropped off to rejoin his family, only to receive a couple of days later a telegram from the War Office to report him missing, believed killed. This sent him back to duty.

The author is scathing about the higher command, from Brigade Commanders up, particularly the French. This is a peculiarly irritating attitude, from junior officers at the time as from journalists later. But, humanly speaking, it may be inevitable, especially in a G.M.F.U. Not long ago, this reviewer dug up a short (illegally kept) diary of his own, covering two months of equal disastrous operations in Africa some 18 months later. Some comments on military ineptitude higher up seem very scathing. Perhaps in circumstances of defeat, they are forgivable.

P. N. N. S.

LIFE AND TRADITION IN RURAL IRELAND. Timothy O'Neill. J. M. Dent & Sons Ltd., London. 1977. £9.95.

While the cost of this excellently illustrated and well produced book may seem high, it would be unfortunate if this should prohibit purchasers as the subject is an important one. With the increasing urban orientation of our society rural traditions are fast disappearing, and as we almost all have a rural background it is appropriate that we should know how our ancestors lived. The book is part of a series which has already covered traditional life in various parts of Britain, but the author is a folklorist formerly with the National Museum, and now in the influential position of head of history in a teacher training college.

As the author says, the book is but an introduction to our past, which he divides into chapters on houses, furniture, food, transport, costume, play and the day's and the year's work. The photographs, from the National Library and Museum, the UCD Folklore Dept., and Bord Failte are fresh and provide excellent records of their subjects; it is unfortunate that the locations are not recorded in each case.

Houses, back to neolithic times, are described, and the Dept. of the Gaeltacht's efforts in the last quarter of the 19th century acknowledged. The furniture section, with good drawings by Catherine Treacy, includes beds but does not mention the folding cupboard bed, still found in West Wicklow, though the drop table is listed, but not for Wicklow either. Nor does Prof. Evans include this bed, despite its venerable age, in his 'Irish folk ways'. Sports such as bull-baiting and cock-fighting should have deserved a note, though the reference to faction fighting and wake games (page 102) will leave many readers uninformed.

Despite the reservations expressed above, the work is highly recommended, and it serves as a most worthwhile general guide to our vanished way of life.

C. C.

THE OBSERVERS SPACEFLIGHT DIRECTORY. Reginald Turnill. (Fredrick Warne, London. £7.50.

Since the last man stood on the moon in 1972 the media have given very little coverage to spaceflight. This book gives a full and precise up-date on the present state of the science.

To-day many countries, apart from the U.S. and U.S.S.R., are involved in un-manned spaceflight. All these are listed and their space research history and present state of their achievements are given along with an insight into the world's various launch centres.

A question which is constantly asked by many is the number of spacecraft in orbit. This question is answered here in detail and in addition the reader is given interesting information on the U.S. Space Detection and Tracking System.

Un-Manned Satellites of every description including Weather, Earth Resources, Military, Tele-communications and Earthquake Predictors are described in excellent technical detail. Each satellite's orbital position is described together with its expected life time in space and the technical data being received from it back on earth.

The manned space programmes of both the U.S. and U.S.S.R. is given in an excellent log form, from the early Manned Mercury and Vostok spaceflights to the international Soyuz-Apollo flight. Both big and small events of each mission are given good coverage, ranging from a faulty switch incident on Apollo 10 to the explosion of Apollo 13.

Information on the Planets of our Solar System is still being gathered. Listed in great detail are the dimensions of the planets, their atmospheres and their moons; also information obtained from spacecraft soft landers and interplanetary probes.

Future manned and un-manned programmes including the space shuttle are outlined, giving their history and technical dimensions. Proposed missions into the 1980s are also listed. The book's 384 pages of excellent technical data has also over 100 photographs and diagrams plus 12 historical colour photographs some not published before.

Reginald Turnill has certainly to be credited with using his journalistic skills in transforming the facts of spaceflight into a pleasant afternoons reading. This book can certainly be read with great ease and will profit both the general reader and the specialist. In this space age of ours a reference book is a must and I can think of no other than Reginald Turnill's Spaceflight Directory.

Jarlath Conerney, A.F.B.I.S.

"HANDGUNS 1870-1978" (Phoebus History of the World Wars Special). Ian V. Hogg. John Batchelor. Phoebus Publishing Co./BPC Publishing Ltd. £1.25.

Ian V. Hogg is a noted author on weapons of every kind and in this his latest book he tackles handguns from 1870 up to the present time, not forgetting the many weapons which today are overlooked because they were badly designed or never popular with their users. In many cases these weapons led to improvements on the more popular models and also brought about improvements in ammunitions in days when each gun maker produced ammunition to fit his weapons only and standardisation of ammunition was an unheard of thing.

Mr. Hogg writes in a clear easy to follow informative way which makes the book easy to follow and the technicalities easy to understand. It is well illustrated with countless photographs and excellent drawings and cutaways which are executed by John Batchelor, a noted artist in this field.

All in all, this is an excellent book and is a worthy addition to any bookshelf.

At £1.25 it is excellent value in days when value is often hard to obtain.

J. M. S.

UNIFORMS AND WEAPONS OF THE ZULU WAR. Christophr Wilkinson Latham. Batsford, London, 1978. Price £4.95 plus VAT. Also vailable in paperback, price not quoted.

This excellent book does a very good job of describing concisely the uniforms worn by all participants in the Zulu War.

The structure of the British Army at that time is given, the effects of the Cardwell reforms, especially as they effected uniforms. This is followed by a unit by unit description of the uniforms worn, on parade and service, with plenty of contemporarrary illustrations and photos of the items described. As the title suggests, weapons are also dealt with, but with rather few pictures.

While 32 colonial units are mentioned, not surprisingly uniform detail is rather scarce. Adequate information is given for about half of these.

One of these units, incidentally, The Natal Light Horse, was, we are told, commanded by a Captain Whalley, late of the 17th Lancers and The Papal Zouaves.

The Zulu Army gets less than 20 pages, but those few pages are packed with information.

The history, structure, formations and tactics used by the Zulu Army is explained in some detail, and the uniforms(for such they were, being UNIFORM within a unit, although consisting only of furs, feathers etc.) are very well dealt with. While one can obtain information on the uniforms elsewhere, this book shows how they were assembled and worn on the body.

One cannot help admire the Zulu. While as Kipling wrote, "Fuzzy Wuzzy" broke the British square, the Zulu inflicted some pretty humiliating defeats on the red coats.

The war was started when Sir Henry Bartle Frere, Governor of Cape Colony, decided the only way to relieve antagonism between Briton and Boer, the white races, was to "relieve South Africa of the Zulu incubus."

As there had been a long standing dispute between the Boers and Zulus over the Transvaal border Frere offered to set up a Boundary Commission, expecting it to find in favour of the Boers. It didn't!

Accordingly, on 11 December 1878, the British Authorities informed the Zulus of the finding, which quite satisfied them.

However, an hour later they were given an ultimatum which strove to overturn their entire social system. The army was to be disbanded. all males were to be free to marry on reaching maturity, thereby destroying the military/social relationship, missionaries were to be free to preach as they wished and a British Resident was to be appointed.

It was to be acceded to within 30 days. War inevitably followed. Some Zulu units marched, or rather ran 150 miles in 3 days with little or no food, fought a pitched battle, and trotted 12 miles to fight another 10 hour battle.

At the last battle, near Ulundi, the Zulu capital, the British formed a huge square and repelled 20,000 Zulus. None of them got within 30 yards of the square, so intense was the fire from the rifles and Gatling Guns.

For men with leather shields and iron spears, they gave a good run for their money.

This is a book to be read by all with an interest in uniforms, or the Small Wars of the Victorian Era, or just to see a little of the background to troubles in Southern Africa today.

MEIER

SURVIVING DOOMSDAY. C. Bruce Sibley. Shaw and Sons, London. £1.25.

The title and the opening quote of Prof. Harold C. Urey - *'The next war will be fought with atom bombs and the one after that with spears . . .'* - sum up the contents of this finely produced, 63 page publication on nuclear armaments, their effects and survival techniques.

It is finely illustrated, contains comprehensive tables and also examines the development of biological and chemical warfare. A section entitled 'Scenario for a Third World War' is intriguing and frightening. Its final sub-section goes:

Zero + ?

Man has survived but the changes wrought by this huge exchange of nuclear weaponry are long-term and unknown . . .

It is unusual to find such serious content presented in such an attractive form. *'Surviving Doomsday'* is a most useful and informative book for members of the Defence Forces, members of Civil Defence or, indeed, for any responsible citizen.

P. O'F.

THE RAMBLING SOLDIER, Edited by Roy Palmer. A Peacock Book published by Penguin Books at £1.75. Also in Hardback by Kestrel Books.

This is a book that was just asking to be made, granted the availability of the material from which to select. The material is engrossing and Roy Palmer in culling and editing it, Peacock Books in making a handsome, bargain-priced book of it, have done a valuable service to many kinds of interest; for The Rambling Soldier presents its composite picture (of "life in the lower ranks, 1750-1900") through the media of soldiers' memoirs, ballads and songs, and well reproduced pictures and documents.

The lower ranks involved are in this case those of the British Army, - not surprisingly. Neither is it surprising that the soldier himself is often an Irishman!

Roy Palmer keeps his comment to a minimum. This is admirable, as also is his short but far from negligible Introduction. The sequence of the book is so arranged as to follow the soldier through four stages: enlistment (voluntary or otherwise!), army life, the scene of battle and the return.

The soldiers' writings, supplemented by the words of the ballads, show a wide range of attitudes to the service and their involvement: from unquestioning conservatism to utter cynicism, gullibility to self-preserving scepticism.

Collectors of ballads will find many here (words and music) worth inclusion in their stock. Frequently the tunes (there are 45 in all) are our own or very closely related to ones we claim. Whether the airs were originally Irish and emigrated with the soldier, or were learned by him on his travels and imported on his return, is always an interesting question, the truth of course varying from one case to another. Still it comes as a surprise to find a tune the dead spit (the "living spit" in some Dublin usage) of the Croppy Boy, also known as The Sailor Boy, here turning up as a ballad of one McCafferty, - another unfortunate Irishman, by the way. We find that another ballad, The Great India War has a tune unmistakably related to our Fainne Geal an Lae; and so on.

The last thirty pages of the book offer us interesting notes on these matters as well as the sources of the copious illustrations (a fascination in themselves), notes on the writers, a bibliography and even a good list of recordings.

In terms of humanity, there is much richness here, and it is heartening to notice how in the face of so much adversity, suffering, indignity, betrayal and disillusion, good nature can survive; humour, that secret weapon of the "lower ranks", is of course always at hand.

F. O Callaghan

A characteristic feature of the HK Weapons System: The most effective weapon for every tactical employment.

HECKLER & KOCH GMBH informs:

System Technology

The demands placed on small arms are manifold and various. New ones are continually being added, in fact a complete catalogue of them.

The answer to all these demands is the HK Weapons System; the technologically up-to-date and proven programme.

The system is based on the G3 Automatic Rifle and its design and functioning principles.

The optimization of this concept: for each tactical employment the most effective weapon.

Today, HECKLER & KOCH is a reliable partner of the German Armed Forces, NATO and the bloc-free countries.

Its high quality standards are continually being updated. The decisive result: Confidence in the HK Weapons System.

Permanent and intensive research, successful development and manufacture justify our claims, and it is our intension to stay at the top.

There is only one HK-Weapons System. Made in Germany.

HK 33A2
Automatic Rifle

Automatic Rifle HK 33A3

Submachine Gun HK 53

Machine Gun HK 21A1

Light Machine Gun HK 11A1

Defense Technology Division

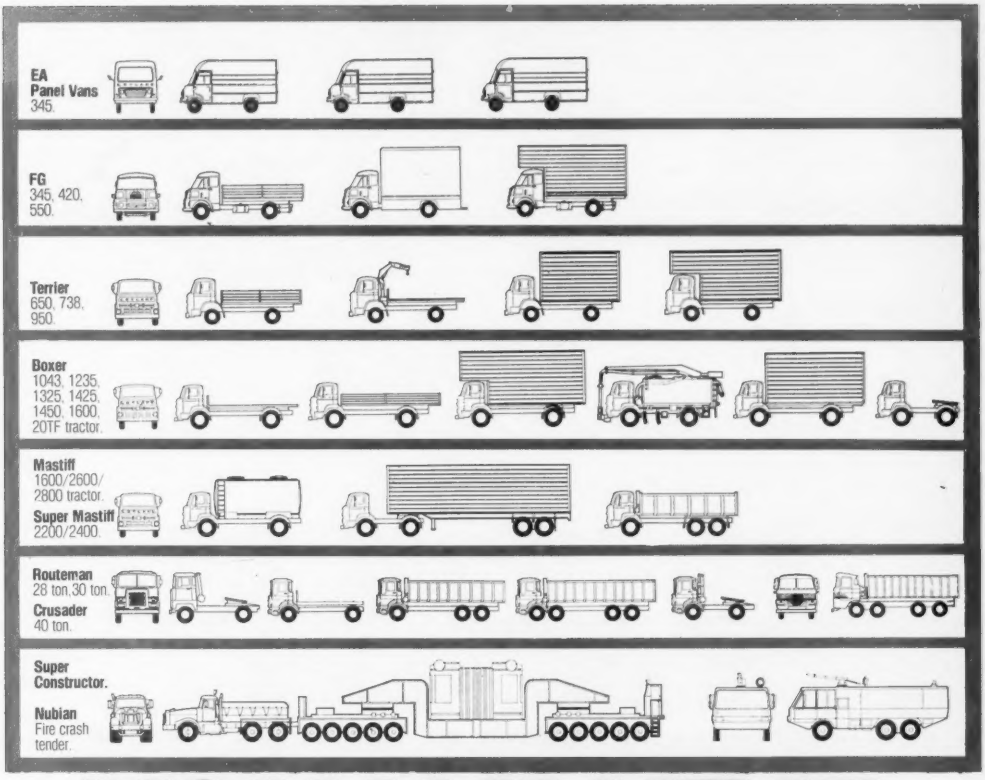
HECKLER & KOCH GMBH
7238 OBERNDORF/NECKAR
WEST-GERMANY
TELEPHONE 0 74 23-20 71
TELEX 760 313
CABLE ADDRESS: HEKLERKOCH

HK

INDUSTRIAL PLANTS DIVISION:
We build complete industrial plants. We project, carry out and supervise the construction work.
We supply and install the equipment and start the production.
We train the personnel for production, administration, and also the management.

DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY
HUNTING AND SPORTING ARMS
INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
MACHINE CONSTRUCTION
PRECISION TECHNOLOGY

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING DESIGNERS LIMITED
Baile Ghib, An Uaimh, Co. Na Midhe
(Gibbstown, Navan, Co. Meath, Ireland)
Tel. (0461) 4183/4186. Telex 31842 TIL-EI



YOU WANT IT, WE'VE GOT IT.

Leyland Vehicles make the biggest, most comprehensive range of commercial vehicles in the world. That means we can supply exactly the right vehicle for your particular operation. Plus the best package of support services in the business, backed by a specialist truck service network.

Before you buy your next commercial vehicle, check with your Leyland Truck Distributor. You've got a better chance of finding it there, than anywhere else in the world.

Leyland Vehicles Ireland Ltd

North Wall Industrial Estate, Castleforbes Road, Dubiin 1. Telephone: 724122 and 741919.